



AGAWAM Advertiser-News

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Volume XIX Number 27

"Your Home"

July 4, 1996

Riverside Unveils Rolling Thunder

*It's All On Videotape...
Police Charge 7...*

Shaving Cream Frolic Turns Into Ugly Melee

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For business owners at Feeding Hills Center, the last day of school is the day they batten down the hatches and lock their doors. That's the day when dozens of students from the Junior High, armed with cans of shaving cream, chase each other through the parking lots and across Springfield Street, spraying themselves with the slippery foam when school is dismissed.

For several years, school officials have worked to discourage the practice, fearing someone would get hurt. They were right.

Police Looking Into Witness Intimidation

This year's "harmless fun" ended with a police officer in intensive care for nearly a week, the arrest of one 15 year-old, charges being filed against six other junior high and high school students, and a police investigation of threatening phone calls to witnesses to the incident.

Still hospitalized more than a week after the incident that touched off a heart attack, 16-year Agawam Police veteran Walter Zymroz has been moved from the coronary care unit and is still undergoing tests at Mercy Hospital at presstime.

SEE UGLY FRACAS - Page 2...

*Council Votes To Hire Tax Expert, But
Mayor Says He Won't Release Funds...*

Council Balks Again At Tax Pact With Utility

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

An additional offer of \$7.4 million over the life of the proposed power plant only served to strengthen some town councilors' beliefs that an independent expert should be hired to evaluate the \$1.2 million in-lieu-of-tax agreement negotiated between Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and Berkshire Power.

At Monday night's Town Council meeting, the vote was 6-4 in favor of delaying action on the in-lieu-of-tax contract. Voting to leave the agreement on the table were Councilors David Skolnick, Gary Suffriti, Edward Caba, Thomas Ennis, Joseph Langone, and Dennis Perry.

Voting to remove the item from the table were Councilors Kent Servis, Christian Quatrone, Jill Simpson, and George Bitzas. Council President Nancy Thompson was absent.

At presstime Bitzas, Quatrone, Mrs. Simpson, Servis, and Ms. Thompson had called for a special meeting for Friday evening, July 5th, at 7:00 p.m., to seek a vote on the tax agreement.

Bitzas said he and the others were seeking a meeting because Berkshire Power needs an answer before the state legislature adjourns at the end of July.

Berkshire Power has stated that their in-lieu-of-tax offer remains intact until the end of the legislative session (they need approval of the pact from the legislature). After this, Berkshire officials said they would apply for manufacturer's tax-exempt status (whereby the town would receive only an estimated \$285,000 instead of the \$1.2 million agreement that escalates by 3 percent each year).

Angry Exchanges Between Councilors

After angry exchanges among some councilors led to two 10-minute recesses and one councilor's microphone being turned off by council vice-president Mrs. Simpson, the council voted 8-2 in favor of hiring an outside consultant on the proposed tax contract if the Mayor will release the necessary funds.

SEE TAX PACT - Page 2...



RIVERSIDE PARK OWNER AND OPERATOR EDWARD J. CARROLL, JR. (left) and his son, Bill, cut the ribbon for the new "Rolling Thunder" Rollercoaster on Friday evening, June 21st. Riverside held a gala dinner in their pavilion to celebrate the event. RELATED PHOTO INSIDE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

To Our Subscribers

We again say thank-you to the many, many subscribers who renewed their yearly subscriptions at the discounted price prior to July 1st. We now ask those subscribers who have not renewed to please do so now by sending in \$24 to Box 96, Agawam, MA 01001 or bring your payment to the office. We will be updating our files over the next few weeks and we do not want to remove anyone from our subscription list. Again, thank-you for your support.

TAX PACT - from Page 1...

Suffriti had received a memo from Johnson saying that he (Johnson) would not release the funding if the council voted to hire a consultant. Despite this, Suffriti convinced the council to ask Johnson for \$2,500 to hire a consultant to review the tax agreement.

Suffriti's original proposal was amended to include the proviso that the council would hire an independent expert if the Mayor would transfer the funds.

Suffriti said he hoped Johnson would have a change of heart. "We're just looking for the money to do our job," Suffriti said. "If he (Johnson) wants a positive response on the contract, he'll change his mind."

Had Not Received Best Offer

Suffriti said changes in the original tax treaty sent to the council Monday proved that the town had not received Berkshire Power's best offer. He said this also proved the need for hiring someone who was an expert in writing in-lieu-of-tax contracts.

The latest amendments to the tax agreement include an additional \$7.4 million over the life of the project. The money is to be used for capitol improvements and townwide beautification efforts. Also, the amended offer gives the town the sole right to rescind the tax agreement after 20 years.

Blitzas demanded that the council act on the in-lieu-of-tax agreement at Monday's meeting, adding, "We are going to lose \$1.2 million every year (the amount the power plant has offered the town)."

Perry said the new offer by Berkshire Power justifies his belief that an outside expert is needed. He also said that if the council had accepted Berkshire's original offer, the company would not have offered more.

"Now we're getting \$7.4 million more and that justifies to me that we need an outside consultant to look at this contract," Perry said.

Citizen's Group Hires Boston Lawyer

During Citizen's Speak Time, Attorney Gina Letellier, representing the opposition Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA), said the group had hired Attorney Paul Feldman of Boston, a specialist in land-use litigation.

Feldman, according to her, is expected to file a motion seeking the right for power plant opponents to intervene in the case as parties aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals to not appeal the Hampden County Superior Court ruling. That ruling made last month granted Berkshire Power a special permit. The ZBA had denied Berkshire Power this same permit in January.

Ms. Letellier said if the CCBA is granted the right to act as aggrieved parties in the case, they will appeal the court's decision that a majority decision of the ZBA (2-1 vote), not a unanimous decision, was necessary for the granting of Berkshire's request to exceed the 40 foot height restriction in the industrial zone.

In defending the ZBA's minority decision that denied the special permit (2-1 vote), she said that the assistant town solicitor did not bring forward the fact that the ZBA's rules call for unanimous votes (3-0) on any case before the board.

CCBA President Kenneth Forni added during Citizen's Speak Time, "Berkshire Power has underestimated our resolve, our commitment, and our finances."

UGLY FRACAS - from Page 1...

It is believed that the stress of the near-riot (touched off when Zymroz arrested one Junior High student for disorderly conduct) led to his collapse at the police station hours after the incident.

Zymroz had been confiscating the cans of shaving cream outside the Feeding Hills Post Office when one boy defied his request and was subsequently arrested.

As Zymroz attempted to put the boy into the police cruiser, the crowd of about 50 teens began shouting obscenities and pelted the cruiser with eggs, shaving cream cans, and landscaping stones scooped from the Community Shops.

Placed in the back seat of the patrol car, the boy immediately kicked out the window glass and attempted to exit the car.

APD Sergeant Steven Draghetti called the inci-

dent "a breach of the peace bordering on riotous."

Draghetti said police were using a videotape of the incident to identify students who were involved in the incident.

Police Chief Robert Campbell said six students, some from the high school, were being charged with disorderly conduct in addition to the boy who was arrested at the scene.

Will Press Felony Charges

Campbell said his department was investigating reports of threatening phone calls to witnesses. "If we find out who is responsible, we will proceed with pressing felony charges," Campbell said.

Campbell said the incident illustrated what can happen when a situation starts off innocently but gets out of hand (turning into something that should have never happened).

Campbell said the crowd of teens may not have agreed with Zymroz' decision to make an arrest,

but the APD does not make decisions based on the will of bystanders.

"Whether they agree or not, it is not up to the bystanders to react to the arrest. The courts will make that determination," Campbell said.

Campbell said he didn't know anyone could classify the shaving cream spree as harmless fun. "I wonder if any parent would appreciate having that done on their private property," he noted.

Draghetti, who serves as the town's safety officer, said he would like to show the videotape to parent groups after the court proceedings are over.

"I'd like to show this at a PTO meeting so that parents can see for themselves what Officer Zymroz was up against," Draghetti said.

Campbell said Zymroz was in good spirits and resting comfortably at the hospital.

"He told me that the outpouring of cards and letters of support from people he doesn't even know has been overwhelming."

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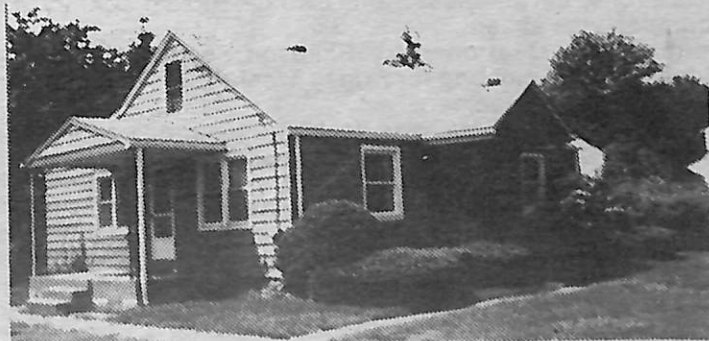
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Letters To The Editor

In-Lieu-Of-Tax Agreement Is A Bad Deal For Agawam

To The Editor:

The CCBA (Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam) has been and always will be against the siting of the proposed power plant by Berkshire Power. The following suggestions for revisions in the pilot contract should not be construed as an endorsement of the proposed power plant.

The in-lieu-of-tax agreement negotiated by Mayor Chris Johnson and Berkshire Power is a bad deal for Agawam.

We wish to point out 11 major flaws and/or omissions in this poorly negotiated and one-sided contract.

(1) Page 1, Paragraph 3

"Whereas, the Town supports locating the facility on property located off Shoemaker and Moylan Lanes in the Town of Agawam..."

This paragraph should be eliminated because it is not true. No Council has ever voted on whether or not to support the siting of this power plant, and the citizens of Agawam have never been afforded and, in fact, have been denied by the Mayor and last City Council the right to vote on this matter.

(2) Bond To Dismantle The Plant

According to the proposed contract, no bond is provided until the 20th year of this contract. The Town Council should require that the bond for the dismantling and total removal of the plant from the property should be in effect prior to construction.

(3) 40-Year Non-Negotiable Contract

This contract is non-negotiable for 40 years. Berkshire Power can get out of this contract at any time. But this one-sided contract binds Agawam for 40 years.

We recommend that the Council insists on renegotiating this contract every three (3) years. The Town of Ludlow renegotiates its contract with the power company every five (5) years.

(4) Liability Insurance

This agreement only addresses the interest of Berkshire Power in the event of an environmental hazard. It does not address the interest of Agawam. At the very least, Berkshire Power should provide insurance coverage for the Town of Agawam and its people.

(5) Future Development

Under this provision of this contract, Berkshire Power or its successors could construct other buildings or even a sister power plant and not have to pay one thin dime to our community.

(6) Distribution Of "Pilot" Payments

According to the terms of the proposed contract, appropriation of the payments had been pre-determined. We recommend that all revenue be placed in the general fund and then be dispensed by the City Council in the budgetary process.

(7) Back-Loaded Contract (Economics Of Contract)

According to the provisions of this contract, Berkshire Power will pay the Town of Agawam \$1.1 million in year one (1) and \$3.7 million in year 40. This is a back-loaded contract.

We suggest a front-loaded contract. According to Berkshire Power figures, \$3.7 million in year one (1) and \$1.1 million in year 40 disbursements from Berkshire Power will be the same, but Agawam will benefit sooner.

(8) Manufacturing Status

If Berkshire Power and the Town of Agawam agree to an in-lieu-of-tax payment, the contract must state that Berkshire Power or its successors cannot file for manufacturing status as long as the plant is in operation.

(9) Infrastructure

Nowhere in this proposed contract is Berkshire Power responsible for any needed water pumping stations, sewer, road repairs and/or upgrades, reduced water pressure, or any other problems with the infrastructure of Agawam.

Berkshire Power should be required to be responsible by contract to purchase fire equipment and to construct emergency neighborhood exits.

(10) Dispute Settlements

This agreement is absent a grievance and arbitration clause. How will disputes be settled if one party breaches the contract? Why is there no provision for an arbitrator to rule on a future grievance?

(11) \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

The following is an example of what other communities are receiving.

Location: Bellingham, MA. Plant size: 300 megawatt. Annual payment: \$3,158,175 taxes.

Location: Milford, MA. Plant size: 150 megawatt. Annual payment: \$1,827,590 taxes.

Location: Pittsfield, MA. Plant size: 165 megawatt. Annual payment: \$2,042,294 taxes.

Pilot from Berkshire Power: Agawam, MA. Plant size: 252 megawatt. Annual payment: \$1,100,000 pilot.

Ask the man who negotiated this pilot agreement one question: why is Agawam being "short-changed" and not getting its rightful share???

Councilors, after over some 10 to 20 hours of hearings on this subject and after being made aware by the people of the shortcomings and glaring deficiencies of this proposed contract (which will place Agawam in jeopardy for years to come), how can you in good conscience vote for this contract, knowing it is damaging to the people of Agawam and is far from being in the best interest of Agawam?

We trust that this proposed contract was negotiated in good faith. We further affirm that it is not the Mayor's fault that he negotiated such an incompetent deal for our community.

After 18 months of negotiations, this contract was not drafted in haste. Therefore, it is painfully evident that Mayor Johnson did in fact need the professional consultant that this Town Council is now seeking to engage.

Ken Forni
Agawam
President, CCBA

AHS Athlete Thanks His Supporters For Contributions

To The Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to all the people who have made a contribution to enable me to compete in the National Scholastic Track & Field Championships that were held in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The competition was a wonderful experience. My goal was to make the "All American Team." I succeeded my goal and placed eighth in the nationals with a high jump of six feet, nine inches. I have set new goals for myself. I would like to jump seven feet by next year.

My year is far from over in track & field. Recently, I placed first in the first round to qualify for the

Junior Olympics. Then I was at the University of Maine for the final round to qualify for the Junior Olympics, which are being held in Houston, Texas this year.

Again, thank you for the financial support and also wishing me well in all that I have tried and am trying to do. I am proud to represent the town of Agawam wherever I travel!

Sincerely,
Phil McGeoghan
Feeding Hills

Candidate For County Commissioner Shares Concerns

To The Editor:

As a candidate for Hampden County Commissioner, I, Abe Kasparian, would like to take a moment to share with you some of my concerns and goals for Hampden County.

I am strongly concerned about the proposed abolishment of County Government as per a bill which has been proposed by Governor Weld as part of his government reorganization effort. The abolishment of county government, in my opinion, would mean:

* Land currently held by the County would become state land under state control, which would include over 350 acres in Agawam containing two historic buildings and riverfront property.

* The loss of locally elected officials — answerable to local residents — to manage the 23 cities and towns making up Hampden County. All control and decision-making would be in Boston under Commonwealth control.

* Additional costs assessed for each city and town for services to be administered from Boston rather than locally as personified in a letter dated May 15, 1996 from the Ludlow Board of Selectmen to the County Commissioners, signed by Mark Winner concerning retirement costs; "Ludlow would be assessed an additional \$74,226.92 to pay for additional contribution..." The Ludlow Board of Selectmen do not support abolishing county government.

* Loss of local services such as printing for municipalities and schools within Hampden County, animal control, group purchasing services, etc.

SEE LETTERS -
continued On Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, July 6th
Car Wash by the Agawam
suburban girls' 10-13 softball team
At Sacred Heart Church
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Cars, \$2; vans, \$3

Sunday, July 14th
Country West Fest at Police American
Club, 139 Southwick St., F.H.
2:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Call 786-0927 for more information

Sunday, July 14th
Agawam Police Explorers
At Ag. Police Station Community Room
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 16th
"Summer Lecture/Workshop in
Astronomy and Space Science"
At Agawam Public Library
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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Here are a few of my ideas on areas of service that I would like to introduce and existing services that can be better handled and administered locally for our County:

* Weekly Commissioner meetings to be held and televised, on a revolving basis, in several key locations within the County, such as Agawam, Holyoke, Palmer, Westfield, Granville, Brimfield, Chicopee, and Springfield, in the evenings to be more accessible to residents and have a time for citizens to address the Commissioners.

* Review the county budget to eliminate the deficit within two years. Some of this can be accomplished by increasing, as I have suggested in the past, the rent the Commonwealth pays for the use of the courthouses. Abandon unused county land to the cities and towns so that it can be put on the tax roles.

* Expand the existing animal control program to include all the cities and towns of the County and provide local access for complainants.

* Establish a close working relationship with County Purchasing Agent to increase the bulk buying power for the cities and towns.

* An aggressive campaign by the Commissioners to encourage trade and industrial development to maximize the best use of land within Hampden County for the highest quality of jobs.

* The establishment of a scholarship fund by the Commissioners for students who live in Hampden County and plan to attend colleges in Hampden County. This scholarship would be funded by donations from the personal funds of the Commissioners, labor groups, businesses and industry, other political officials, and individuals. Education is the foundation of our society and when leaders talk about education, this will give them a vehicle to financially support education and to encourage young minds to strive for excellence.

* Centralizing of County information through the establishment of a World Wide Web Homepage for Hampden County. The homepage would cover information concerning local events, sites of interest, Town Meeting schedules, and much more. This will assist smaller towns within the County that do not have cable access and also allow the 23 cities and towns to get information from the county government about its upcoming meetings and agendas, as well as final decisions that could be placed on this service.

The Abe Kasparian's *Unofficial County Homepage* on the World Wide Web is: <http://map.com/~ak4hcc>.

It would be unrealistic to assume that Governor Weld's plan to abolish county government would save money, as the services the county is now providing (mainly maintenance and upkeep of the court system) would still need to continue.

The Democratic primary is September 17, 1996. Please come out to vote to preserve local control of our County and our tax dollars.

Respectfully submitted by
Abe Kasparian
Agawam

Candidate for Hampden County Commissioner

Many Issues Can Be Alleviated With Some Courtesy & Respect

To The Editor:

Agawam has problems like most cities. Many issues could be alleviated by showing one another some courtesy and respect.

Case in point, the controversial and now boring Berkshire Power plant. In the beginning, I sympathized with the opponents and, in fact, had doubts whether or not the power plant would have a positive effect on our community.

Somewhere along the way, when the relatively small group of opponents could see support for the plant growing, things got ugly and their message was lost. When Berkshire Power opponents and some of the City Councilors make outrageous remarks about our elected officials and outright attack people, their true purpose has vanished.

It is every citizen's and every City Councilor's right to passionately take a stand on issues. In fact, I spoke out *against* the Route 57 extension at a public hearing in 1985. However, most of the BP opponents and some of our Councilors go one step further. They not only attack the issue, but viciously attack the people who oppose their viewpoint.

I never met or voted for Nancy Thompson, Agawam's Council President. Shame on me. Ms. Thompson has seen it all. To endure the level of verbal abuse and total disrespect from some of her fellow Councilors and BP opponents and, at the same time, maintain the highest level of professionalism is a tribute to her leadership abilities. Ms. Thompson has character.

Recent Agawam history has shown that highway extensions (Route 57), Stop & Shops, and even Dunkin' Donuts cannot damage the town's "character." Rather, the character of the town's citizenry is what really counts.

The recent "shaving cream incident" perpetrated by disrespectful 15 year-olds is very disturbing. But, how can we expect our children to respect authority and one another when we, as adults, set such a poor example. The children of Agawam learn quickly.

Tim Lynch
Feeding Hills

There Is Good News And Bad News For Town Of Agawam

To The Editor:

There is good news and bad news:

1. The bad news during the last major gas shortage was an estimate that fossil fuels would be exhausted by the year 2020.

2. The good news came later when new reserves were discovered and the estimate was revised to the year 2040.

3. The bad news is that the revised estimate does not include fossil fuel-guzzling power plants like Berkshire Power.

4. The good news is that many of us will not be around when the fossil fuel wells run dry.

5. The bad news is that our children will be around when the good times are over and the wells run dry.

Don Hazen
Feeding Hills

Agawam Junior High's P.T.O. Deserves Great Deal Of Praise

To The Editor:

Congratulations to the "Agawam Junior High School P.T.O." for a tremendous school year! Everyone working as a team made it possible.

Very truly yours,
Clyde E.P. Benton
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS -
continued to Page 6...

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LETTERS - from Page 5...

Is Berkshire Power The Type Of Neighbor That We Want?

To The Editor:

Ethics is a vital part of engineering; moral representation and the ethical practice of business and engineering is mandatory for technology to fairly serve the best interests of our society.

Story of Esau and Jacob (Old Testament, Book of Genesis, chapters 25-27):

Esau and Jacob were twins and sons of Isaac and Rebekah. One day, Esau (the older twin) was famished when he returned from the woods after hunting all day. Jacob saw that Esau was vulnerable, and took advantage of Esau's hunger.

Jacob convinced Esau to pledge to sell his birthright for a bowl of lentil stew. Afterwards, Esau felt both shameful and angry when he realized that he had been cheated by his brother to give up his birthright because of his compulsive decision.

Jacob once again used deception later in life with the help of his conspiring mother, Rebekah. When Jacob's aged and ailing father, Isaac, called out to give his blessing to his oldest son, Esau, Jacob (knowing that Isaac's eyesight was poor) convinced his father that he was really Esau by concealing his real appearance; the misrepresentation was effective since he was not able to see the truth about his son's deceptive acts.

Isaac gave his blessing to Jacob instead of Esau, as his wife Rebekah looked on and stood silent, condoning Jacob's actions.

Esau became furious after realizing how he had been tricked not once, but twice. As a result of Jacob's actions of greed and trickery, Esau could only comfort himself by conspiring to kill Jacob.

The hatred and division in the family was so serious and so long-lasting that the problems between Esau and Jacob were never resolved. Their once-united village split into two communities.

The story of Esau and Jacob demonstrates that an attempt to seek a self-serving, short-term gain resulted in everyone's loss. I hope that we are wise enough not to allow biblical history to repeat itself in our community.

Berkshire Power needs to begin telling the truth and represent who they really are and compensate Agawam for the true value of the proposed power plant. The actual value of the power plant should compensate the host community for over

\$3,000,000, not \$1,200,000.

A good neighbor does not cheat his/her community. Why does Berkshire Power Development refuse to pay their fair share to our community? Is Berkshire Power Development the type of neighbor that we want in our Town?

Karl Stieg
Agawam

Boys Scouts Offer Thanks For Help With Klondike Derby

To The Editor:

The Boy Scouts of Troop 78 of Agawam and Pioneer Valley Council wish to thank the Springfield Police Diving Rescue Team for their participation in the January Klondike Derby held at Moses Scout Reservation.

The Police donated their time and expertise for the day. The Scouts found their demonstration and instruction of rescue in the ice fascinating.

The Police cut a hole in the ice and had a diver play victim. They then instructed the Scouts in the proper safe rescue of a person who had fallen through the ice and had the Scouts actually pull the diver out to safety by human chain, log and rope.

The Scouts learned a practical and valuable lesson that they otherwise could not have obtained any other way.

Boy Scouts of Troop 78, Agawam

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Was A Success

To The Editor:

The Agawam Health Department would like to offer thanks to all the individuals and organizations who helped to make the Household Hazardous Waste Collection, held June 8, 1996, a success.

Members of the Agawam Lions Club directed traffic and provided informational literature to participants, and the Jr. Women's Club placed posters in local businesses.

I would also like to thank the DPW, Building Maintenance, Fire Dept., and Bd. of Health Chairman Bill Euliano for their assistance. A total of 410 residents participated in the collection.

Thank you,
Randall G. White
Health Agent

Keenan Says State Gives Green Light To School Expansion Here

Under the recently adopted Fiscal 1997 State Budget, the Phelps Elementary School is slated to receive funding for its school addition and renovation project, according to State Representative Daniel F. Keenan. The project is listed on the School Building Assistance Priority List compiled by the Department of Education under the provisions of the School Building Assistance (SBA) Act.

The purpose of this list is to order completed capital school construction project applications based on demonstrable need. Capital projects are defined as new buildings, major additions, or renovations which include upgrading the entire structure so as to insure an educational and structural life of at least 20 years.

Rep. Keenan stated that the FY 1997 Budget authorizes \$14,463,471 first-time payments. "This amount will provide funding for the Phelps School project," said Rep. "So long as Agawam begins this project in FY 1997, Agawam can expect to receive its first payment under SBAB in the beginning of FY 1998. The Clark, Granger, and Robinson Park Schools projects should be funded as part of the FY 1998 Budget, with first payments to be received in FY 1999," Keenan concluded.

The reimbursement rate for Agawam under this program is 71 percent. The number of payments received by the grant recipient is equal to the number of years for which indebtedness is incurred to finance the project.

Municipalities receive the grant payment for each project on an annual basis during the quarter in which the project's construction started.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Fireworks—Spectacular But Dangerous

The Agawam Fire Department wants to remind you fireworks are explosives that are unpredictable and can be deadly.

Each year, thousands of adults and children are seriously hurt in fireworks-related injuries. In many areas, the use of fireworks is illegal.

For the safety of you, your family, and your friends, obey the law. Leave the handling of fireworks to the professionals.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

OFFICE CLOSED

Due to the July 4th Holiday, we will be closed ALL DAY on Thursday, July 4th, and after 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 5th, and all day on both Saturday and Sunday. We will reopen on Monday, July 8th at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, on THURSDAY, July 18, 1996 at 6:45 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of TIMOTHY T. AYRE who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for a change of use, (Residential to Business) for an office at the premises identified as 648 MAIN STREET.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: July 4, 1996

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 11, 1996 at 7:15 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Scully for work to be performed on 62 Colonial Avenue.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: July 4, 1996

LEGAL NOTICE

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may be extra.

Expires 7/15/96

School Committee Concerned About Substance Abuse Report At AHS

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The good news is that school administrators are addressing the growing problem of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use among the town's teenagers.

The bad news is that Agawam teens report a level of drug use on a par with latest state figures showing about a third of Massachusetts teens experimenting with or using drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

At the June 25th School Committee meeting, AHS Drug Abuse Prevention Coordinator Jack Dougherty reported on the results of a self-reported study of drug use among students at the High School.

According to the report, about 30 percent of the roughly 1,200 students at the school have used or continue to use drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. The highest incidence of substance abuse related to alcohol, nicotine, and marijuana, with cocaine use and hallucinogen use scoring the lowest.

Dougherty said there is no profile of what category of students was more likely to have problems with substance abuse.

"From the kids on the National Honor Society to the kids who hang out on street corners, drug use is a situation that affects anyone," Dougherty said. "If they want it, they'll get it."

Under questioning from School Committee members, Dougherty said he would have a hard time identifying a profile of which students might eventually drop out of school.

Dougherty said there are several factors, of which drug use might be one, involved when students are doing poorly in school.

AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski said facing the problem of drug use among teens is not solely a job for the School Committee and school administrators.

High Risk Groups For Drug Use...

Zabielski said research shows that male students and ninth graders are the highest risk

groups for drug use.

"Parents have to become more attuned to what is going on with their children. This is something we all have to face. It's an enormous task," Zabielski said.

Dean of Students Bernadette Conte agreed. "Not all education should be done at school. Parents have to do some education at home."

Dougherty, who has been working full-time as the High School's substance abuse prevention coordinator since February 1995, said in addition to the school system's efforts to combat drug use, there needs to be a community effort to provide more recreational activities for teens.

Dougherty suggested a community teen drop-in center as an alternative to hanging out at the malls for kids with too much time on their hands.

Highlighting the fact that students don't come to the High School with no experience of substance abuse, Dougherty announced that a substance abuse prevention professional would be hired to work half-time at the Junior High School next year.

"We think the students are initially exposed (to drug use) at 11 to 13 years of age," Dougherty said.

Superintendent of Schools Bernard F. Ryder said the school system's plan for expanded drug abuse prevention was "a major step forward — a big plus."

Dougherty said he would like to do more drug prevention education within the health classes offered to the town's secondary students, as well as implement an informational program for parents and offer more assembly-style programming for the students.

Dougherty said the information gathered from the student drug use survey would be beneficial to school administrators in assessing continuing drug prevention education and "looking back to see where we missed the boat."

Keenan Cites Increased Funding For Agawam In FY '97 State Budget

Stating that he is proud to be part of the movement which increased local aid to the Third Hampden District, State Representative Daniel F. Keenan supported a final fiscal 1997 state budget that will disburse increased funding to the cities and towns.

The Town of Agawam is slated to receive the following amounts:

• Chapter 70 (School Aid) - \$7,977,036 (12.1% increase over FY 1996).

• Lottery Distribution - \$2,434,181 (8.7% increase over FY 1996).

The FY 1997 Budget authorizes \$14.5 million first-time payments under the School Building Assistance Program. This authorization will provide funding for the Phelps School project in FY 1998 as long as the Town of Agawam begins the project in FY 1997. The Clark, Granger, and Robinson Park Schools addition and renovation projects should be funded as part of the FY 1998 Budget.

"These increases in local aid enable our cities and towns to provide the most critical municipal services such as education and public safety," said Rep. Keenan. "The Legislature is mindful of its responsibilities under the Education Reform Law and its commitment to uncage the state's lottery funds."

The approval of the \$17.4 billion budget includes \$2.4 billion in Chapter 70 funding, \$484 million in lottery distribution funding, and \$476 million in additional assistance to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call 789-0053.

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Happy birthday, U.S.A.

Our own juicy hothouse tomatoes. Crisp lettuce from the fields. Fresh-picked summer squash. Crunchy yellow, green, roma, and pole beans. Cucumbers, pickles, radishes, and beets. Can it possibly get any better than this?



Last time, we showed you the newly-built stand in the daylight. Here, it's shown at night. This photo was used in a mid 1950s Western Massachusetts Electric Company campaign aimed at roadside stands in an effort to promote lighting systems as a way to increase night-time sales.

Sure it can! How about juicy red raspberries? We've got 'em. Fresh from the patch and perfect for pies or by the handful!

And the best surprise is that we'll have our own butter & sugar corn this weekend! Despite everything Mother Nature has done to try and hold us back, we started picking

on July 1st. We'll have fresh-picked corn for your July Fourth barbecue this weekend, but until the field fully ripens it will be in limited supply, so stop in early and make sure you get the first ears of the season!

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"Everything you'd grow if you had 40 acres."

Don't forget, we carry bread from Alvin's Sandwich Shop, eggs from Otis Poultry Farms, Pioneer Dairy milk, Granville Country Store cheese, and pies from High Hopes Orchards.

Keenan Secures Funding For Community Policing

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that the Agawam Police Department is in line to receive a community policing grant of \$40,000. As a result of his efforts, Rep. Keenan was able to secure funding for Agawam's community policing program in the State Budget for Fiscal 1997.

"These funds will help the Agawam Police Department expand its community policing program," said Rep. Keenan. "We have seen the fantastic success of the bike patrols, and these funds will aid the public's call to expand the patrols to other parts of the town."

Community Policing Grants are administered by the Executive Office of Public Safety and are awarded to those cities which have experienced extraordinary health and safety problems as a result of having increased gang activity and street violence.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, on THURSDAY, July 18, 1996, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of EDWARD AND PATRICIA FOLEY who are seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7, Paragraph B of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for an addition at the premises identified as 43 CENTER STREET.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: July 4, 1996

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 11, 1996 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of Gallagher for work to be performed on Lot 1 Horsham Place, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission

Published: July 4, 1996

Zoning Board Won't Appeal Court's Decision On Berkshire Power

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Six months ago, they couldn't agree on issuing a special permit for the power plant proposed by Berkshire power.

But last week the three members of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) were unanimous in their decision not to seek an appeal of a Superior Court judge's order for summary judgment in favor of Berkshire Power.

On Thursday, June 27th, the ZBA met in executive session for the second time in a week to consider legal strategies with Town Solicitor Thomas Locke and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

Before going into executive session, the board was asked by former Town Councilor Paul Trim-boli to consider appealing the judge's decision on the grounds of ineffectiveness. According to him, this was because Assistant Town Solicitor Charles Sclafani had not asked for discovery in making a case representing the ZBA's minority decision that denied Berkshire Power's request for a special permit to exceed the 40-foot height restriction for buildings in the industrial zone.

ZBA member Raymond Gendron, who wrote the minority decision denying the special permit, said he took exception to the idea that his interests had not been properly represented by Sclafani.

"I have no problem with his (Sclafani's) representation of me," Gendron said. "I will not support an appeal on the grounds of ineffectiveness of counsel. I do not think it would be proper or true."

Gendron said both he and Sclafani had agreed it was not necessary for Sclafani to ask for

discovery of more information in representing the ZBA's minority decision.

A "Voluminous" Record Of Testimony...

Gendron said there was already a voluminous record of expert testimony in the case. "The record was more complete than any other case before the town," Gendron said.

After nearly 40 minutes in executive session, the board returned to open session to announce its decision not to appeal the case and to enter into a settlement agreement with Berkshire Power. This includes all but two of the 47 conditions set forth in the ZBA's majority decision granting the special permit in January signed by ZBA Chairman Ronald Hebert and member Doreen Prouty.

Hebert told power plant opponents that any party aggrieved by a decision of the ZBA had 20 days to file an appeal, but he was not sure which date began the 20-day countdown.

Locke said he was not sure whether the 20 days began with the ZBA's action on Thursday night or on June 13th (when the judge's order was issued and advised plant opponents to consult with their own legal counsel as to when the appeal process began).

"The key date is 20 days from some date," Locke said. "I'm not sure which one."

In ruling in Berkshire Power's favor, the court said the section of Agawam's zoning code relating to the height restriction in the industrial zone requires merely the approval of the ZBA and since the section does not impose a special permit requirement, a majority vote is sufficient to approve the request.

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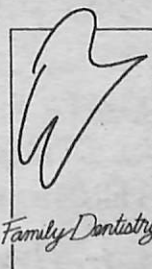
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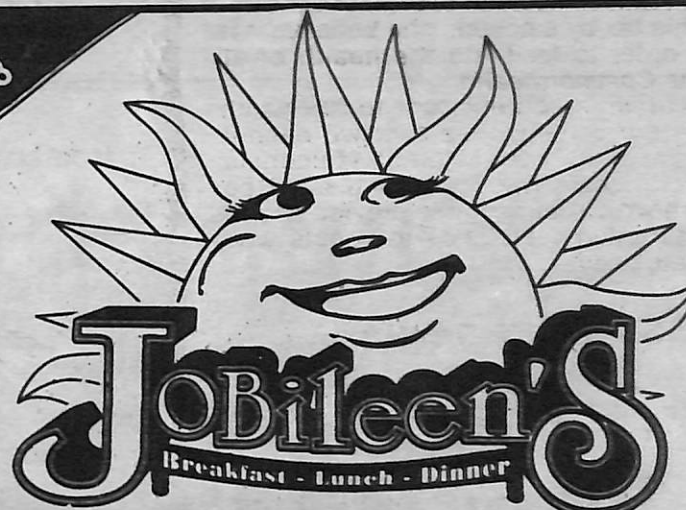
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Melconian Supports Health Access Bill

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced support of an Act to Improve Health Care Access that will provide prescription drug assistance to the elderly, and will reduce the number of uninsured children.

"The Health Care Access Bill would provide needed prescription assistance for thousands of elderly in the Hampden District; assistance for which I have championed over the years," Melconian said. "The rising cost of prescriptions is of great concern to our seniors, and I will continue to fight to make them affordable and accessible."

"For five years in the Senate, I have strongly advocated and sponsored legislation to provide money to assist seniors with prescription drug costs," Melconian continued. "Our efforts have failed in the House of Representatives, and have not had the full support of Governor Weld. With the new Health Care Access Bill having passed in the House, there is fresh hope that the time for legislation concerning prescription drugs has arrived."

The bill, sponsored by Representative John McDonough (D-Boston), would create a prescription drug subsidy program for people on Medicare who cannot afford prescription drugs through their "Medicap" coverage. Massachusetts and New Hampshire are currently the only northeastern states that do not offer prescription drug assistance for low-income seniors.

McDonough's legislation would seek to reduce the number of uninsured children by expanding Medicaid coverage to low-income children up to the age of 12 whose families are below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, and increasing access to the Children's Medical Security Plan for those lower-income children who do not qualify for Medicaid. The legislation would insure about 80 percent of the uninsured children in the state.

"It should be a priority to insure all Americans, but a special effort must be made to assure that our children receive proper medical and health care, regardless of economic standing," Melconian said. "No child should be denied access to health or medical care because he or she is poor."

For these reasons, Melconian will support the Health Care Access Bill, which would be financed by a controversial 25-cent increase in the cigarette tax. While Melconian recognized the opposition of this tax by smokers, she believes it is essential in order to facilitate the health of all citizens of the Commonwealth.

"This legislation is so important to the youth and elderly in our communities that we cannot pass up the opportunity for reform," Melconian said. "It is unfortunate when anything must be taxed, but we have an obligation to provide health care and prescription assistance to people who are in desperate need."

Best local news...

From The Sweetest Little Boy



To The Finest Young Man

Happy 16th, Chad

Love,
Mom, Dad, Nonie, Al & Matt

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM TOR-96-5

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE WAGE SCALES FOR CERTAIN UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, The wage scales of the Department of Public Works summer labor force as well as unclassified positions at the Council on Aging have not been adjusted since 1991; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to adjust said wage scales;

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam Town Council does hereby amend the Code of the Town of Agawam as follows:

Amend Sub-Section (9)(c) of Section 49-7 of Chapter 49 entitled "PERSONNEL" as follows:

Custodian-Council on Aging
Eff. 07/01/95 - \$7.89/hour; Eff. 07/01/96 - \$8.16/hour; Eff. 07/01/97 - \$8.44 hour

Meals on Wheel Driver-Council on Aging (Part-Time)
Eff. 07/01/96 - \$7.06/hour; Eff. 07/01/97 - \$7.30/hour

Laborer - Seasonal
Eff. 05/01/96 - \$6.25/hour

Maintenance Crew Leader
Eff. 05/01/96 - \$7.50 to \$8.25/hour

DATED THIS Twenty-fourth DAY OF June, 1996.
PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
Nancy E. Thompson, President
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Thomas S. Locke, Solicitor

Published: July 4, 1996

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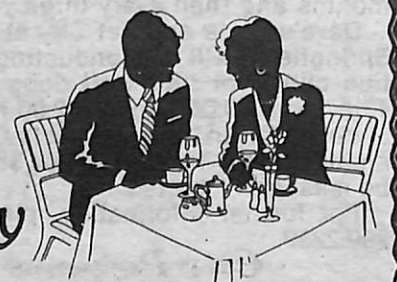
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Jill P. Simpson, Vice-President

786-0053

24 Pleasant Valley Rd., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

George Bitzas

789-1464

33 Fernwood Dr., Agawam, MA 01001

Edward A. Caba

786-2479

198 Walnut St., Agawam, MA 01001

Thomas J. Ennis, Jr.

786-9402

556 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Joseph F. Langone

786-3419

180 Suffield St., Agawam, MA 01001

Dennis J. Perry

786-1238

466 North West St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Christian M. Quatrone

786-4496

75 Pleasant Valley Rd., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Kent P. Servis

789-1343

48 Kathy Terrace, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

David Skolnick

786-1115

331 Rowley St., P.O. Box 482, Agawam, MA 01001

Gary E. Suffriti

786-5516

3 Cooper St., Agawam MA 01001

1996 School Committee Members

Christopher C. Johnson, Chairman

786-6297

88 Morningside Circle, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Teresa Kozloski, Vice-Chairwoman

786-6934

102 Meadow Street, Agawam, MA 01001

Roberta Doering

786-2323

915 River Road, Agawam, MA 01001

Linda Galarneau

789-0245

24 Sycamore Terrace, Agawam, MA 01001

Louis Massoia, Jr.

786-5785

6 Sequoia Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Susan Pettazzoni

786-9699

116 Granger Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Rosemary Sandlin

786-3256

90 Granger Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Rabies Clinic Slated At Dave's Soda And Pet City In Springfield

This time of year, your dog or cat tends to spend a lot of times outdoors, which places them at greater risk for rabies.

Rabies is a frightening disease that has spread into the Western Massachusetts region. Carried by infected wild animals which could wander into any yard, rabies threatens all pets who spend even a few minutes outside the house.

It is the law that all dogs and cats must be vaccinated to prevent the spread of this virus which endangers human beings as well.

For animals to be adequately and legally vaccinated, they need two shots within nine to 12 months and then every three years.

Dave's Soda and Pet City at 415 Cooley Street, Springfield, will be conducting a rabies vaccination clinic for cats and dogs on Saturday, July 13th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Veterinarian Nancy Lewis-Owen will be vaccinating pets. The fee will be \$8, and all pets must be leashed or crated.

For further information, please call Vickie at 789-2259.

Check our classified

Agawam Obituaries

Doris G. Hembdt

Doris G. (Ritter) Hembdt, 87, of 206 Knollwood Drive, Longmeadow, a 20-year teacher in the Agawam schools, died at home.

She retired in 1970.

Born and schooled in Holly, Michigan, she was a graduate of Albion, Michigan College, where she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

She lived in Longmeadow for 32 years.

She worshipped at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield, and was a former president of the Agawam Women's Club, the College Club of Springfield, and the 14th District Presidents Club.

She also was a manager at the Chestnut Knoll Retirement Home.

Her husband, Phillips V. Hembdt, died in 1983.

She leaves a son, Phillips H. Hembdt of East Longmeadow; a brother, Charles, and a sister, Josephine Levenworth of Michigan; and two grandsons, Douglas and Brian Hembdt.

A memorial service was conducted at the church, with a private burial at Riverside Cemetery in Albion.

Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements, and memorial contributions may be made to Chestnut Knoll, 471 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01107.

He belonged to the West Springfield Grange. He leaves a sister, Barbara Fogg of Feeding Hills; six nephews, James D. Fogg of Agawam, Walter K. Fogg, Jr. of Westfield, Robert Southworth of Lakeview, Florida, Eugene Southworth, Jr. of Ocala, Florida, Richard Southworth of Hampden, and Douglas Tryon of Willow Glen, Pennsylvania; two nieces, Carolyn Calabrese of West Springfield and Beverly Tryon of Willow Glen.

A private service was conducted at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial at Fairview Cemetery in Chicopee. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church, Piper Road, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Anello E. Zini

Anello E. Zini, 85, of 886 Main Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

He worked at General Fiber Box Co. in West Springfield for 40 years, and retired in 1975.

Born in Springfield, he lived in West Springfield before moving to Agawam 65 years ago.

He was a communicant of St. Anthony's Church, and a member of the Victor Emmanuel Society, the Italian Sporting Club, and the Dante Club.

His wife, the former Alda M. Guidi, died last year.

He leaves a son, Richard A. of Exeter, New Hampshire; two grandchildren, Richard Zini, Jr. of Agawam, and Lori J. Gentile of Springfield; and a great-grandson.

The funeral was at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield, and the church, with burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia Society of America, 180 Rustcraft Road, Dedham, MA 02026.

Donald R. Chapin

Donald R. Chapin, 89, of 94 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

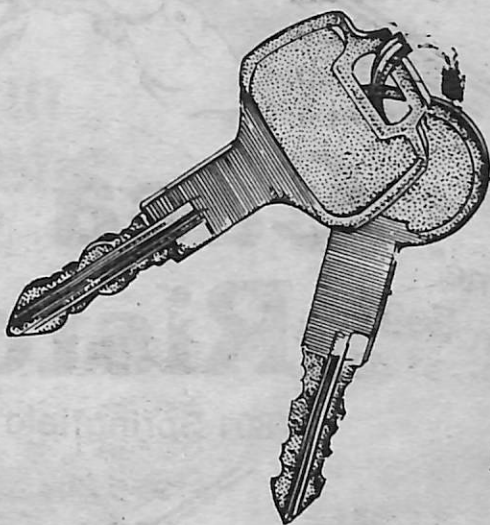
He was a 25-year machinist at the former Snyder Bicycle Co. in Little Falls, New York.

Born in Chicopee, he lived in West Springfield and was a 1925 graduate of West Springfield High School. He also lived in Little Falls and Palo Alto, California, before moving to Feeding Hills in 1988.

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Carlo - V8, Power Sunroof,

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6,000 LE - 6 Cyl., Auto, AC,

No. 04 **\$1,995**

89 Plymouth Grand

Voyager - 6 Cyl., 7 Pass.,

Auto, AC, Low Miles,

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92 Dodge Caravan -

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Boneless Bottom Round Roast	\$1.79 Lb.
Boneless Back Rump Roast	\$1.89 Lb.
Boneless Eye Round Roast	\$2.39 Lb.
Beef Round Cube Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Beef Round Stew Beef	\$2.49 Lb.
Bottom Round London Broil	\$1.89 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.39 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Porterhouse Steak	\$4.39 Lb.
T. Bone Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Country Style Pork Ribs	\$1.69 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.39 Lb.
Split	\$1.59 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.

WHOLESALE MEATS

Whole Bottom Rounds (With Eye)	\$1.39 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$4.69 Lb.
Whole Short Loins	
(Porterhouse & T. Bone)	\$3.19 Lb.



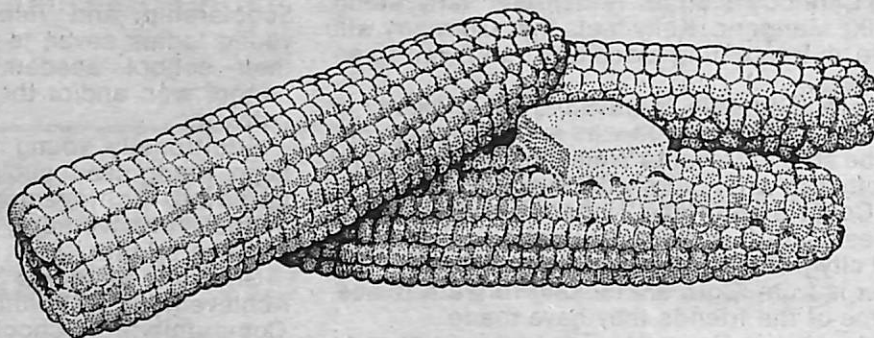
DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese ..	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Russer Honey Maple Ham	\$2.99 Lb.
Deutsmacher Polish Loaf	\$2.39 Lb.
Hudson Skinless Turkey Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Hoffmann's Super Sharp Cheese	\$3.99 Lb.
Store Made White Meat Chicken Salad ..	\$3.99 Lb.



PRODUCE

Large Size Nectarines	\$1.19 Lb.
California Cantaloupes (Each)	99¢
Red & Green Seedless Grapes	\$1.49 Lb.
Bananas	49¢ Lb.
Jumbo Size Plums	\$1.39 Lb.
California Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	39¢
Fresh Broccoli (Bunch)	\$1.19
Fresh Corn	3 For 89¢



DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (½ Gallon)	\$1.09
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Hood Half & Half (Quart)	99¢

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY SPECIAL

Fresh Ground Chuck (10 Lbs. Or More) ..	\$1.29 Lb.
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SEAFOOD

Scrod Fillet	\$2.99 Lb.
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July 8th - 13th

Jack's Scented Candles
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Families

Operation Friendship Members To Travel To Europe This Summer

For six Feeding Hills and Agawam youth, and one adult, the summer of 1996 will prove to be one of the most memorable of their lives.

Under the Operation Friendship program, Kelly Carmody, Jon Couture, Shannon Gilmartin, Mike Mangano, Shelley Rose, and Ryan White have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to Europe for three weeks this summer. Last year, the teens hosted a visiting group from Cardiff, Wales, and now it's their turn to travel.

In 1964, Operation Friendship was founded by Rev. Wallace A. Shaw, an American minister at St. Margaret's Church of Scotland in Glenrothes. To enable the youth of one country to learn about the different cultures of other countries and to develop friendships around the world is what Operation Friendship gives teens the opportunity to experience.

It has undoubtedly filled its purpose. With O.F., the young people are not merely traveling through as tourists, they are living as a member of another family; going shopping, doing chores, learning about the culture, and maybe even learning some of the language.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity has turned into a twice-in-a-lifetime opportunity for one teen in the group. For Mike Mangano, this will be his second chance to travel with Operation Friendship, having traveled to Thorner, England two years ago. This July, he will be visiting Weiden, Germany and is looking forward to traveling to a country with a completely different culture than England.

Shelley Rose also has some previous O.F. experience, although this will be her first trip overseas. The Rose family has been involved in O.F. for 10 years now, with older brothers Eric and Sean both taking part in previous years.

Kathy Rose, Shelley's mother, will be traveling to Vorden, Holland as an advisor to youth delegates from Grafton, Sturbridge, Leicester, and Palmer in Massachusetts, and one delegate from Pennsylvania and one from Indiana.

Despite all the fun she is sure to have, Mrs. Rose has been really working hard this spring to improve her bicycling skills, for bicycles are the main mode of transportation in Vorden. Shelley herself will be enjoying a stay in Lockerbie, Scotland.

Kelly Carmody is off to Weiden, Germany, along with Mike Mangano. Kelly feels that Germany will be quite an interesting place and can't wait to arrive there.

Shannon Gilmartin is traveling to Anglesey in Northern Wales. Shannon was really hoping she would be able to travel to Wales this summer, and luckily that is where she will be going.

Jon Couture and Ryan White are also traveling to Wales. Cardiff is their destination. This is the capital city from which the group they hosted last summer is from. Both are looking forward to seeing some of the friends they have made.

Membership in Operation Friendship is open to any youth 13 to 21 years of age. To travel, the youth must be 15 years of age by July 1, 1998. It is a two-year family commitment.

The first year is to host a European youth in your home for three weeks; the second year, a chance to travel to one of the seven European countries involved in Operation Friendship International: England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Germany.

Travel dates usually fall around the end of July to early August. During the three-week visit, each local hosting group plans a program of tours and visits to educate their guests as to the cultural, educational, commercial, industrial, and government systems of the country.

Once a visitor reaches the nation being visited, the host group assumes all boarding and touring costs. Through fundraising activities, our local group is able to meet most, if not all, of the travel fees and hosting costs.

For further information on Operation Friendship, call Kathy Rose at 786-0195.

Please do not call in your classified ad. Either bring it to our office or mail to Box 263, FH, MA 01030.



LOCAL AND VISITING MEMBERS of Operation Friendship pictured in the summer of 1995. Six youths from the community are heading for Europe in the summer of 1996. Operation Friendship is based in Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

Hilary M. Golas Selected As Finalist In 1996 Pre-Teen Mass. Program

Hilary Marie Golas, daughter of Richard and Deborah Golas of Agawam, has been selected as a finalist in the 1996 Pre-Teen Massachusetts Scholarship and Recognition Program to be held August 2-4, 1996 at the Sheraton Inn in Springfield, MA.

Pre-Teen Massachusetts is a by-invitation only Scholarship and Recognition event involving young ladies seven to 12 years of age based on their school academic records, awards and honors won and/or their participation in outside activities.

Additionally, young ladies are invited who have been recognized publicly for their outstanding personal achievements, volunteer services, school involvement, leadership abilities or creative talents.

State Finalists will be judged on (1) Academic Achievement; (2) Volunteer Service to Church and Community; (3) School Honors and Activities; (4) Development of Personal Skills and Abilities; (5)

General Knowledgeability; (6) Communicative Ability and (7) On Stage Review and Acknowledgment of Accomplishments.

Pre-Teen Massachusetts will award over \$5,000 in educational bonds, prizes and awards.

Hilary is very grateful to the following sponsors who have enabled her to attend this very prestigious state event: The Winning Image Consultant Firm of Ware, Friendly's Ice Cream Corporation of Wilbraham, Carroll Travel of Springfield, Springfield Pediatrics, Inc. of East Longmeadow, and UMW-Trinity United Methodist Church of Springfield.

Pre-Teen America was founded in 1990. The National Headquarters for the Pre-Teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program is located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Patricia Daniel is the Founder and National Director.

Next week, our deadline will once again be on Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

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Nicole Rheaume Earns Dancing Scholarship Award At Pageant

New York City bound is Nicole Rheaume, who was the recipient of the "I LOVE DANCE" scholarship award announced at the Stamford, Connecticut pageant at the Marriott on May 26, 1996.

There were hundreds of talented dancers present, but only one — Nicole — was selected to attend the championship classes on a full scholarship this summer. She'll be taking classes from the who's who of dance in ballet, tap, jazz, acrobatics, and hip hop.

"I LOVE DANCE," the organization behind this incredible opportunity, is in its 18th season of producing dance conventions around the country and across Canada.

Between now and the end of the 1995-96 season in August 1996, "I LOVE DANCE" will hold dance events in several remaining cities from coast to coast and in Canada. In each one of these cities, one dancer will be selected to represent her city as the scholarship recipient.

This summer, the 1995-96 scholarship winners will converge on Orlando, Florida, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, and/or New York, New York to attend the workshops.

As a scholarship recipient, Nicole has shown extraordinary talent in dance and an unusual ability to entertain.

While announcing the scholarship award, the show director, Kim McKimmie, said, "Miss Nicole Rheaume has potential for a career in dance, and we at 'I Love Dance' want to do whatever we can to encourage her and to help her with her training. The finest group of master teachers ever assembled in one venue will be available to her for one solid week of intense, total immersion dance training. She will benefit greatly from the experience."

Nicole is a student at the Agawam Middle School and will be entering sixth grade in the fall. She studies dance at Dazzle Studio of Dance, and her teacher is Lisa Talbot. Her proud parents are Gregory and Joyce Rheaume.

Congratulations, Nikki!!!

AHS's Class Of 1986 To Hold Barbecue

To commemorate its 10-year reunion, Agawam High School's class of 1986 will be holding an outdoor barbecue on Saturday, September 7, 1996 at Shaker Farms Country Club, Shaker Road, Westfield.

There will be games, a D.J., and a full bar. Bring the kids.

Adults are \$20, and kids over five years of age are \$7.

Invitations are in the mail. Hope you'll join us! For more information, call 789-7739.



NICOLE RHEAUME was the recipient of the "I Love Dance" Scholarship Award at the Stamford, CT pageant in May.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, July 8th: Chicken chow mein, white rice, mixed vegetables, wheat bread, cantaloupe.

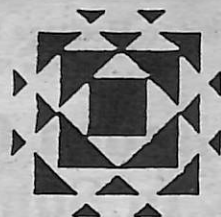
Tuesday, July 9th: BBQ pork rib, potato wedges, tossed salad, rye bread, pineapple.

Wednesday, July 10th: Meatloaf with gravy, baked potato, corn on the cob, whole wheat bread, brownie.

Thursday, July 11th: Vegetable quiche, French fries, broccoli and cheese, rye bread, canned pears.

Friday, July 12th: Baked fish, rice Pilaf, mixed vegetables, rye bread, chocolate pudding.

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Sunday, 3 PM - 8 PM

BBQ Brings Kids & Elderly Together At Heritage Hall



RECENTLY, a group of young people paid a visit to Heritage Hall Nursing Home in Agawam (West Building) to enjoy a barbeque with residents and staff. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Country West Fest Slated For July 14th

On Sunday, July 14th, a festival featuring country-western entertainment will be held rain or shine from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Polish American Club fairgrounds and pavilion, 139 Southwick Street (Route 57), Feeding Hills.

This special event will feature a variety of foods, western merchandise, and additional vendors displaying their goods. Music will be provided by the Broken Spoke Band and D.J. Tim Welesky.

Line and partner dance lessons will also be given from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. by dance expert Marie B.

Admission is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, please call 786-0927.

Agawam Garden Club Members To Tour Pond Hills In South Hadley

On Tuesday, July 9th, members of the Agawam Garden Club will tour Pond Hills, an AHS display garden of 1,000-plus varieties of day lilies, at 164 Mosier Street in South Hadley.

The display garden, owned by Bette Dzwonkoski, features a wide variety of perennial

plants, some of which can be purchased.

Members will meet at the South Hadley garden at 6:30 p.m. Persons wishing directions may telephone the Garden Club vice-president, Barbara Pemberton. There will be no business session or refreshments that evening.

All the hometown news with us, each week!!!

*check our
classifieds*

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My Avocation is Coaching Kids. My Bank is Hampden Savings.

Steven Breitbart is the owner of Classic Laundry in Springfield and Courthouse Laundry in Chicopee Falls. His faithful companion is Jezebel IV.



"I started coaching baseball when my sons were growing up. I did it all the years they played, and one made it to the semi-pros and then played in Holland as a pro. So I guess we were doing something right. I took some years off. But this spring I went back to coaching little leaguers at the Longmeadow Park and Rec.

To be a good coach, you have to understand people, just like when you run a service business like mine. I coach my employees to greet our customers with a smile because nobody likes a sourpuss. You don't have to know people to be nice to them.

But all that seems pretty basic at Hampden Savings.

I've been a customer for more than 20 years. Jezebel and I go to the Longmeadow branch, and Jez sits and stares at the teller door until she gets a treat. That's our routine. That and a lot of banking over the years.

The bottom line is they make me—Jez, too—feel welcome every time we're there. And I look forward to that bonus interest check in November. Hampden really seems to understand people—it's their special thing. Like coaching is for me."



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Wing-Ding At E.B.'s Again A Huge Success



E.B.'S SPECIALTY CHICKEN RESTAURANT on Walnut Street Extension held its Annual Wing-Eating Contest recently and another huge crowd turned out for the fun-filled event. ABOVE, contestants munch away on those famous buffalo wings at E.B.'s. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A Design Public Hearing will be held by the Massachusetts Highway Department to discuss the proposed rehabilitation of the Route 57 Bridge, No. A-5-17 over Route 159 in Agawam, MA.

WHERE: Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001

WHEN: Wednesday, July 10, 1996 at 7:00 P.M.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed bridge rehabilitation project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of rehabilitating the existing Route 57 bridge, over Route 159, in its present location with minor improvements to the approach roadways. A secure Right of Way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements or rights of entry may be required. The MassHighway Department is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in private and public lands. The Department's policy regarding land acquisitions will be discussed at the hearing.

Written views received by the Department subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. The final date of receipt of these statements and exhibits will be ten (10) days after this Public Hearing.

Plans will be on display one half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project.

KEVIN J. SULLIVAN, COMMISSIONER
THOMAS F. BRODERICK, P.E., CHIEF ENGINEER
Boston, Massachusetts

Published: July 4, 1996

*All the local news
with us, each week*



NORMAN FORTINI (left) was declared the winner of the Annual Wing-Eating Contest held recently at E.B.'s Specialty Chicken Restaurant on Walnut Street Extension. IN PHOTO RIGHT, the Borgatti guys, Ed Sr. and Ed Jr. were once again the gracious hosts. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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Agawam Lions Introduce New Officers



THE AGAWAM LIONS CLUB introduced its new officers for the 1996-1997 club year recently. From left - Joseph Guy, 1st vice-president; Fred Harkins, past district governor; Raymond Olson, new president; Anthony C. Bonavita, outgoing president; Robert Campbell, 3rd vice-president; and Robert Loomis, 2nd vice-president. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AIRMAN MICHAEL J. YOUNG

Michael J. Young Graduates From Air Force Basic Training

Air Force Airman Michael J. Young has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs, and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Young is the son of Joseph P. Young of 1-F Castle Hill Road, Agawam, and Mary Jo Young of 300 Tallulah Trail, Warner Robins, GA.

He is a 1994 graduate of Agawam High School.

We are closed all day on July 4th!

Ag. Police Explorers To Meet On July 14th

Shannon Netopski of the Agawam Police Explorers has announced that there is a program open to all males and females ages 14 and up who are interested in law enforcement and learning while having fun.

The Police Explorers will be meeting on July 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Police Station.

The members of the Agawam Police Explorers have camp outs, CPR training, gun courses, fingerprinting children, and march in parades. They also learn to speak to the public, learn first aid, security, parking and much more.

Come to a meeting and see if it's for you!

Best local news...

• Two Winners Take All Over \$3,500 In Prize \$\$\$

Friday Bingo

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MR. & MRS. LAURENCE BOUCHARD

Amanda Mitchell Weds Laurence Bouchard

Amanda M. Mitchell and Laurence M. Bouchard were recently united in marriage at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Marian Mitchell of Westfield. The bridegroom is the son of Laurence and Hope Bouchard of Feeding Hills.

Dynelle Longto attended as maid of honor. Marc Barber served the bridegroom as best man.

The bride graduated from St. John's School of Business and is employed by New England Orthopedic Surgeons.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Agawam High School and is employed by the Town of Agawam.

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Church News

Strawberry Supper Held At Ag. Congregational



AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH on Main Street, Agawam Center, held its Annual Strawberry Supper recently. From left - Natalie Whitmarsh, Myrtle Davilli, and Doris Kistner supervised a crafts sale that was held during the supper; IN MIDDLE PHOTO, Carol Allen has just dished out a bowl of beautiful strawberries and cream; and in PHOTO RIGHT, Nancy Smith, Doris Preston, and Peg McCobb were part of the kitchen crew. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Blueberry Festival Slated At Agawam Methodist Church

Agawam Methodist Church will hold a blueberry festival on Saturday, July 20th, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Barbecued chicken, hamburgs, and hot dogs will also be on the grill. Various blueberry desserts will be homemade.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$6 for seniors. For reservations, call Dana Henry at 789-0684.

Nocturnal Adoration Soc. To Meet July 5th

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint John's Church in Agawam to conduct and pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, July 5th, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

Agawam Clergy Association Sponsoring Prayer Service For Unity & Peace July 14th

The Agawam Clergy Association is sponsoring a prayer service for unity and peace on Sunday, July 14th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Gazebo on the Veterans' Green in Agawam.

The tragic burning of churches across our na-

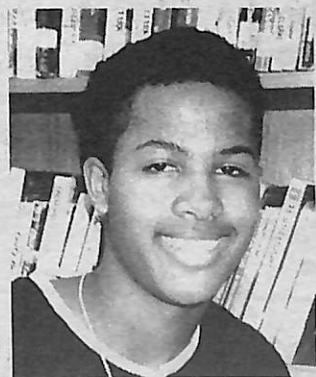
tion is an affront to all Americans. Please join us for this brief but important event as our community comes together to help stem the tide of racism and violence.

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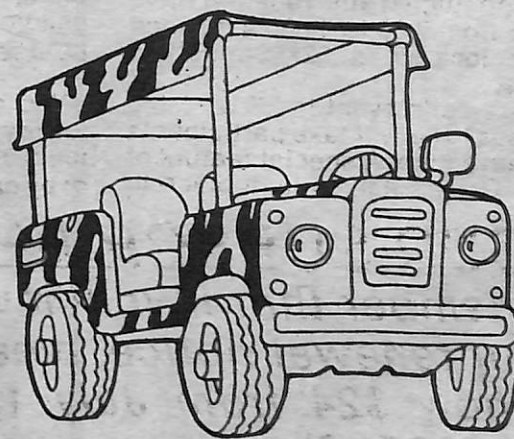
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Children, Ages 4-12

Hosted by Agawam Church of the Bible

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Church News - continued...

St. David's Church Has Busy Slate For First Few Weeks In July

JOIN THE PEOPLE OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH AS THEY CELEBRATE THE NEW LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST in worship services this weekend.

The church offers a quiet, contemporary service at 5:00 p.m., on Saturday, and a dignified, traditional service on Sunday at 8:00 a.m., both held at the church building, 522 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. The exuberant renewal service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday is held at the Agawam Middle School and normally features a Summer Sunday School program for those in grades K-4.

However, this week's service will be held "family style" for worshipers of all ages. There is, however, nursery care for smaller children (Kindergarten and under). The service is also interpreted for the deaf.

This week's services will focus on God the Holy Spirit, and will feature a sermon by the Rev. Cal Fox, member of St. David's. The 10:00 a.m. service will be geared to children, looking at the life of Samson. St. David's welcomes visitors at all of its worship services.

THE SENIOR YOUTH GROUP OF ST. DAVID'S, for those in grades 9-12, has just returned from a five-day retreat to the Creation Music Festival in Hershey, Pennsylvania. This group will continue to meet at times throughout the summer.

Further information about any of the three St. David's youth programs may be obtained by calling the parish office at 786-6133.

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN FOR OUR NEW FACILITY, to be located at 697 Springfield Street. The public is welcome to join us in being "sidewalk superintendents," and we covet your prayers. Framing of the new facility is now underway.

RELAX, FELLOWSHIP, AND LEARN TOGETHER with others at the "Pool and Praise" gatherings on Tuesdays in July at the Fernalds home in Longmeadow. Pool & Food from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Singing from 7:00 to 7:15 p.m.; Study and Prayer from 7:15 to 8:00 p.m.

Call them if you wish further information (567-0097).

ST. DAVID'S WILL SERVE THE HOMELESS AND HUNGRY through the Open Pantry this weekend. The public is invited to help out by bringing non-perishable food to worship services Saturday at 5:00 p.m. or Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (both services held at the church building, 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills) or 10:00 a.m. (held at the Agawam Middle School).

This sharing of food is especially appropriate to invite children to take part in.

MEN ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE MEN OF ST. DAVID'S at their monthly breakfast, Saturday, July 6th, from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. at the church building, 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. The breakfast normally consists of good food, good conversation, a brief message or study, and a brief time of prayer.

Further information or registration may be obtained by calling the Parish Office at 786-6133.

NEWS STORIES:

BETSY COWAN, daughter of St. David's Pastor, Len Cowan, has recently left the United States for a six-week Summer Missionary project in Poland. She is traveling with staff and college students affiliated with the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, an evangelical, interdenominational ministry on college campuses. Betsy will be serving as "nanny" to the staff children, and will also be participating in various aspects of the camp program for Polish and American students.

ERIK TURNBERG, youth member of St. David's, will be serving for six weeks in the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras, working alongside The Rev. John & Gail MacDonald and others who pastor the Christo Redentor Church in Tegucigalpa.

Statements from Erik and Betsy follow:

A Statement From Betsy Cowan

This summer I'm going to Poland! On June 26th, I left with a group of college students and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship staff for a five-week mission trip.

Why am I going? Though I'm not a college student or an IVCF staff worker, I'm going to help out with child care for the staff family that's going. I'll spend part of my time helping with two energetic toddlers. (Anastasia, three years-old, loves to ask questions, especially, "Why?" Michael, one year-old, doesn't talk, yet he is strong-willed and likes action.) The rest of my time, I'll spend with the students in a "lingua-cultural exchange" with Polish college students who want to learn American language and customs.

We'll be living together as Christians. We'll also be doing a work project; either Habitat for Humanity or working at a Polish orphanage.

A Statement From Erik Turnberg

On July 16th, I will be traveling to Honduras to help the Rev. John and Gail MacDonald in spreading the Word of God through Christo Redentor Church in Tegucigalpa.

I will be helping with the organization of church activities, teaching Sunday School, getting other teenagers involved with the church, as well as whatever they decide to throw my way.

Hopefully, I will come back with more to add to our own church.

Vacation Bible School At St. David's Church

St. David's Episcopal Church has a treat in store for all youngsters ages four to grade six at its vacation Bible school.

This year's VBS will begin Monday, August 5th, and continues through August 9th. Vacation Bible school is in session from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. each day. The church is located at 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The theme for this year's event is "Friendship Adventures with Jesus" and will take participants on a most exciting adventure. A special feature of the VBS program is Camp Friendship, a place to

share, sing, look, listen, and learn together. Everyone can look forward to stories, skits, music crafts, and more!

"Friendship Adventures with Jesus" is an exciting and important learning opportunity for children, youth, and adults. Registration is now in progress.

You can register or obtain additional information by visiting the church office between the hours of 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. or by calling 786-6133.

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, July 7th, is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, and the Summer Worship service is at 9:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. Summer hours will continue through to Sunday, September 1st.

This Sunday, Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "You Can't Pretend To Be Happy."

The Summer Youth Church, "Kids For Character," continues following the "Children's Message." This program is a series devoted to instructing children in developing their character, values, and ethics.

The teacher for this week's series is Jeannie Lewis. The theme this week is "Fairness." The series will be adapted to support these themes from a Biblical perspective.

This program will run through Sunday, August 25th. All children are welcome!

The Vacation Bible Camp, "Images Of God," will be held July 29th through August 2nd from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Ages two through the sixth grade are welcome.

Please register early or by July 15th by calling the church office at 786-7111. Cost is \$5 per child (\$10 maximum per family).

There will be a Potluck Supper at 6:00 p.m. on the last day of camp, August 2nd, at the church. Canned goods for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry will be collected at the Potluck Supper.

Summer Schedule Begins At First Baptist

"Lessons from Eagles" will be Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon topic this Sunday as First Baptist Church begins its summer schedule.

Worship will be at 9:30 a.m. Special music will be offered by Tim Deik, trumpet, with Erwin Werthamer at the piano.

Coffee and conversation will follow as usual in Davis Hall, with children's church held from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Each Sunday starting on July 14th and continuing through August 18th, there will be a vacation bible school for all children ages three years to sixth grade.

Call the church office (786-7300) weekday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon if you want your child to participate.

On our calendar this week:
Tuesday, July 9th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class.

Wednesday, July 10th: 7:15 a.m., Midweek Prayer Time (Chapel); 7:00 p.m., Meet at the church to go Miniature Golfing (all ages invited).

Thursday, July 11th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Midweek Worship Service (Sanctuary).

Caring Connection contacts for the month of July are Lorie and Charlie Baker (786-8140) and Linda Chicklas (786-1565). Call them if you have caring concerns.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS:

Please remember that if you have not yet sent in your renewal notice, please do so now. It's now \$24 from July 1, 1996 to June 30th, 1997. Thanks.

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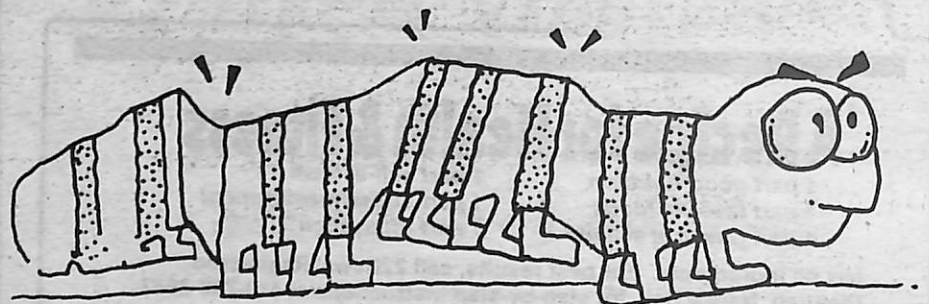
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Church News - continued...



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

The Declaration Of Independence

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

With these words, America declared its independence from England. For 220 years, this one sentence has been the backbone of our American political philosophy. Just about all of us truly believe that each of us is entitled to what the Declaration of Independence calls "unalienable Rights."

Each of us wants to be free to enjoy the benefits of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness, but are we really free to do that? If we are so free, how is it that our prisons are exploding with overpopulation? How is it that despair runs rampant throughout our society? Why are people harming themselves and each other in all sorts of ways, including but not only with drug, alcohol and sexual abuse?

The Apostle Paul, writing in the Book of Romans, said, "The Law has shown me that something in me keeps me from doing what I know is right. With my whole heart I agree with the Law of God. But in every part of me I discover something fighting against my mind, and it makes me a prisoner of sin that controls everything I do."

The Bible says what each of us knows in the bottom of our hearts, that even though we are free politically, we are still not free to enjoy Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

The Bible tells us that if we are controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions will bear fruit for death. When we find ourselves doing the very things we do not want to do, it is not the devil who makes us do it, it is our own sinful nature.

The disparity we encounter is that the Declaration of Independence is a political document. Political documents cannot set people free. They are very handy for establishing nations (as we have seen), but they are useless for setting people free (as we have experienced).

There is a true Declaration of Independence which does set people free. It is declared each time a person declares himself or herself dependent upon the grace of God by accepting Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. When a person becomes a Christian by accepting Jesus, the Holy Spirit gives that person the power to overcome their sinful nature.

One of the "fruits," or evidences, of the Holy Spirit's presence in a person's life is self-control. Instead of being controlled by the sinful nature, for the first time in our lives we are actually self-controlled. Then we are really free.

The 1776 document also says that, "A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people." The sinful nature is such a prince, and it is not fit to be the ruler of any person who would truly like to be free.

"Who will rescue me from this body that is doomed to die? Thank God! Jesus Christ will rescue me."

Calendar Of Events
For Sacred Heart

YOUTH ACTIVITIES for the month of July:
July 7th: Meeting/Outdoor Fun, Parish Center, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

July 9th: Golfing at the Sand Trap, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Meet at the Center; cost is \$10.)

July 13th: Car Wash, Parish Center, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

July 19th: Picnic Lunch at Stanley Park, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (RSVP by July 18th.)

July 24th-27th: Camping, Holy Cross, from 3:00 p.m. Wednesday to 5:00 p.m. Saturday.

MEMORABILIA — Many of you brought in memorabilia for the 50th anniversary. Please come to the rectory any day Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or any evening Monday through Thursday, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Some of you did not put your names on these articles or pictures, so we do not know to whom they belong.

VOLUNTEER — A parishioner who lives off North Street needs a ride to the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. If you can do this, please call Sr. Eileen at 786-8200.

CRIB NEEDED — If anyone has a baby's crib they no longer need, please contact Sr. Eileen at 786-8200. Thank you.

This Week At Agawam
United Methodist

Summer takes us everywhere, at different times of the season. Whether late or early in the season, people search out new experiences. Among which is place to worship and people among whom to worship.

Agawam United Methodist Church, during this season, offers varied forms of worship from Sunday to Sunday.

This Sunday, July 7th, there will be opportunity to share in the singing of lively Gospel and revival hymns, as well as listening to a message in song brought by soloist Brent Cooper. Brent uses contemporary music to capture the hearts of youths and adults alike.

Come and be inspired by this moment of worship which begins at 9:30 a.m.

Children may enjoy Church School and learn the values of their religion while engaged in Bible craft activity.

(The Agawam United Methodist Church is located at 459 Mill Street, just opposite the Agawam High School.)

Best
local
news

News And Notes From
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for adults begins at 9:00 a.m. A patriotic Service of Recognition for POW/MIA service personnel begins at 10:00 a.m. A Service of Holy Communion will be included.

Children are welcome to attend church with their parents, leaving at the designated time for a planned activity; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Mulberry Child Care began using the church on July 1st from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They will continue to meet here until the end of August.

The second session of Vacation Bible School will be held at the church on Sunday, July 14th. There will be all sorts of activities planned for both young and not-so-young! Lunch will be provided after the morning worship service. Classes, activities, and crafts will take place from 12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m.

Please use the sign-up sheets in Griswold Hall if you plan on enjoying the fun (or helping to provide it!). The next session will take place on August 17th and include a sleep-over at the church.

If you have any questions, call Melinda, 789-1463, Chris, 789-9606, or speak to any member of the Board of Christian Education.

Deadline to put information into the August issue of *The Informer* will be Tuesday, July 9th.

On the calendar this week:

Sunday, July 7th: 9:00 a.m., Adult Sunday School; 10:00 a.m., Communion Service; 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., Crossroads Christian Fellowship.

Monday, July 8th: 7:00 p.m., Trustees.

Tuesday, July 9th: *Informer* deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Thursday, July 11th: 5:30 p.m., Volleyball; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

ST. DAVID'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturday 5 P.M.; Sunday 8 & 10 A.M.

Sunday School & Nursery: Sunday 10 A.M.

(10 A.M. Service meets at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main St.)

PLEASE NOTE:

ON JULY 14 AND 21, 10 A.M. SERVICES WILL BE
HELD AT 9 A.M. AT OUR CHURCH BUILDING.
522 SPRINGFIELD STREET, FEEDING HILLS
786-6133

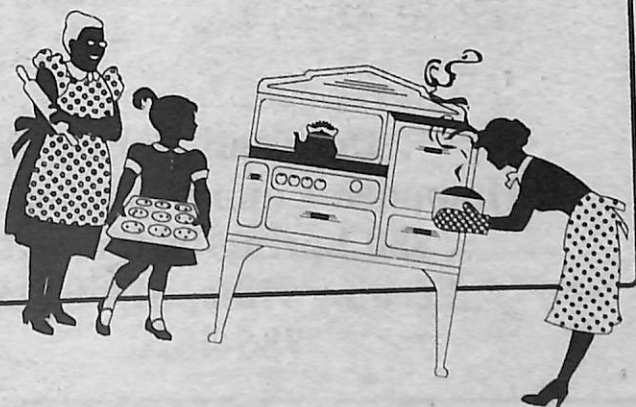
REVEREND LEN COWAN

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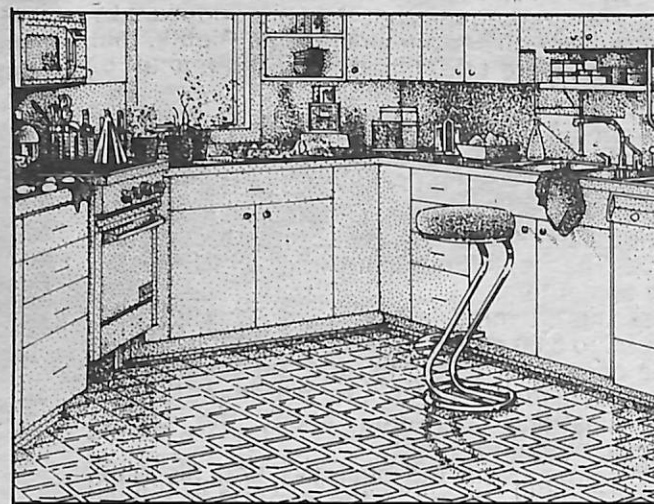
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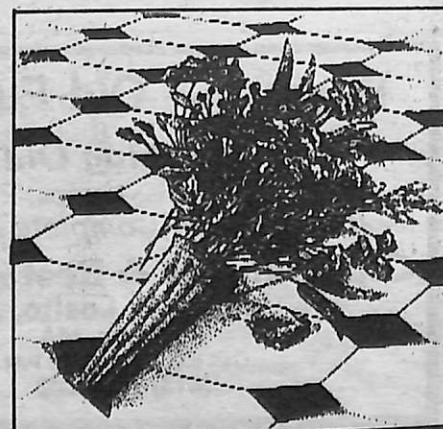
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Spotlight On Business

Online Computers Expanding Service To The Area

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Paul and Thomas Byrne, Feeding Hills natives and brothers, have moved their **ONLINE COMPUTERS** facility from West Springfield to 636 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills (next to the Feeding Hills Public Market), and are interested in expanding their business in the area of home computer service. That is selling, improving, and servicing home computers.

With this in mind, every Thursday after their 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. business day, the facility remains open until 8:00 p.m. and the public is invited to visit, discuss computer merchandise, and have questions answered about the rapidly changing computer field.

Paul Byrne owns the business and his older brother Thomas Byrne is the general manager. John Duorchak is the senior technician and does programming, and the brothers are interviewing for a fourth position.

In January, the building on Springfield Street (next to Feeding Hills Public Market) was purchased by Paul. It was renovated and refurbished to accommodate their business purposes, and opened to the public in March.

The building is grey, with burgandy shutters and awning, and a sign that reads: "ONLINE COMPUTERS, BUSINESS/HOME/NETWORK/SERVICE." The company sells computers and computer systems, installs them, and are on hand to back up their products with information and repairs, or just to offer guidance and answer questions as the market expands.

The brothers say their major business is with school systems, such as Enfield and Turner Falls, and with municipalities, where competitive bidding is required. They also install and service computer systems for industries.

The local company provides instruction to a limited extent and is associated with persons who offer instruction by phone or in homes (in computer use, hardware, or software).

Paul said he had his own computer business for nine years in Westfield and West Springfield.

Originally Known As "Business Automation"
Known originally as "Business Automation," the name indicated computers for business use. With the expansion of their business and the world of computers, the name **ONLINE COMPUTERS, BUSINESS/HOME/NETWORK/SERVICE** was adopted.

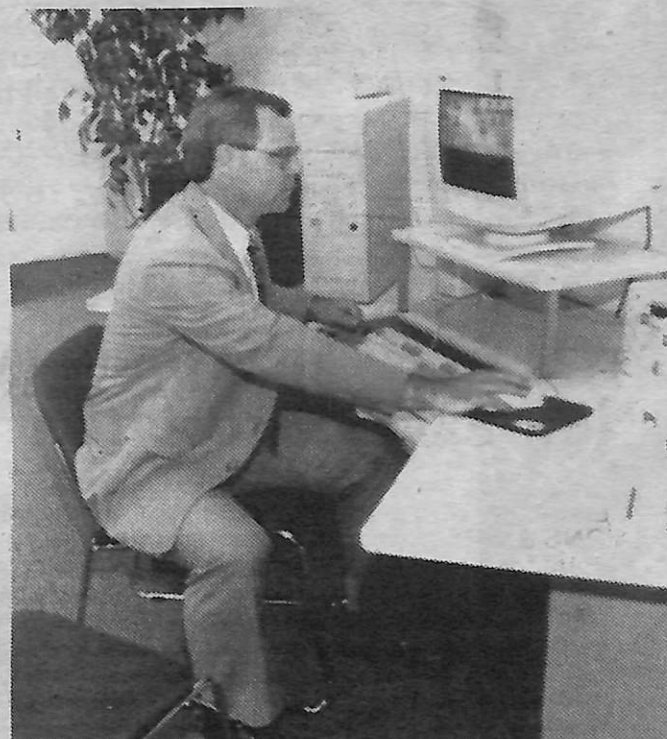
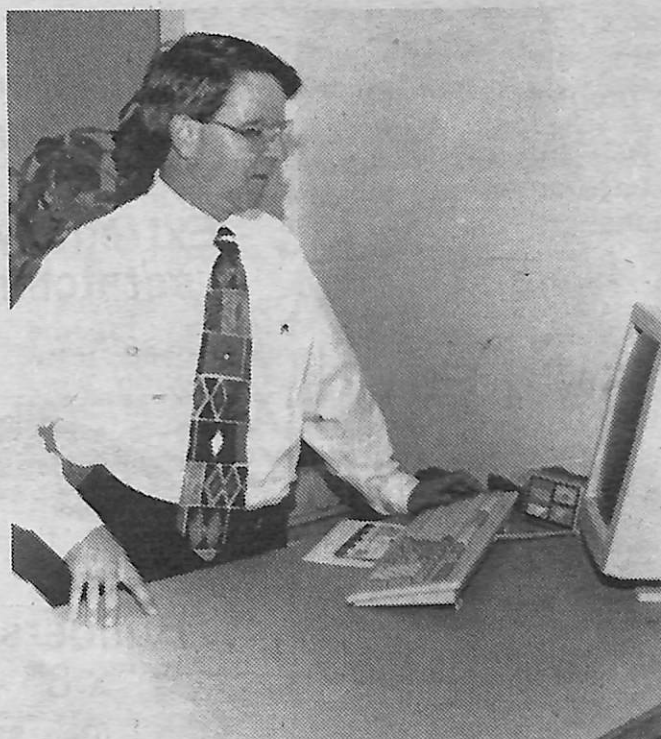
The term "online" is ambiguous. Originally it might have been understood to mean turning on and entering your computer. Now it has a broader connotation that could include access to the World Wide Web, E-Mail, etc. C.D.'s in multi-media bits for games and activities are also in demand, Paul said.

The local facility is not an access station to world-wide programs, Thomas pointed out, but it can provide access. The company is now pushing the retail end of the business (selling and servicing) for individual customers and homes.

Both brothers graduated from Agawam High School, and Paul has a degree from Westfield State College in mathematics. While in college, he became familiar with computers and did some work for a municipality programming water and electric billing. Personal computers were relatively new in the 1980's, Paul said, and he learned the



ONLINE COMPUTERS is located at 636 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills (next to Feeding Hills Public Market). The business is owned and operated by Paul Byrne of Westfield (formerly of Feeding Hills). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THOMAS BYRNE OF AGAWAM (left) is the general manager of Online Computers. He is a 1973 graduate of Agawam High School. **Paul Byrne of Westfield** (right), a 1976 graduate of Agawam High, owns the growing business. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

business by taking courses and experiencing it.

Thomas has an associate degree in business administration from Holyoke Community College and several certificates for computer work from HCC and Westfield State. He was employed for 20 years at United Technologies in middle management, and his focus in the Agawam company is on the administrative part of the company.

Paul and his wife, Kathy, live in Westfield and are parents of eight year-old Jeff and six year-old Kathie. Thomas and his wife, Donna, live in Agawam and have a grown son, Shawn.

Learning about computers takes time, Paul commented. "You can read all about it, but you

have to do it to get the feel and understanding. This is because you hit a button and get an immediate response, and you learn from the response."

The local company has a page on the Internet and can receive E-Mail. The full page contains information about the company and is accessible world-wide, or wherever folks are online to receive it.

Thomas announced that their web site is: www.online.com.com.

ONLINE COMPUTERS is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. (And on Thursday evenings until 8:00 p.m. for their open house.)

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*Spotlight On Business - continued...***BayBank Donates \$500 To Ag. Jr. Women****Going By Thunder...**

TO CELEBRATE THE GRAND OPENING of the full-service BayBank branch in the Agawam Super Stop & Shop, BayBank donated \$500 to the Agawam Junior Women's Club. From left - Dick Stebbins, regional president; Georgia Barufaldi, area manager; Gina Fusick, customer service manager; Liz Taylor, Jr. Women's president, and Ann Woodard, 1st vice-president of the club.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co. Appoints New Sales Associate

Laurence D. Landry, President of LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens, announces that Mary Howe has joined the firm's Feeding Hills Office as a Sales Associate. She currently resides in Agawam.

Mary holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Eastern Connecticut State University and a Retail Merchandise Certificate from Morse School of Business. We are pleased that Mary has chosen LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co. to pursue a career in real estate.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens, is the largest real estate firm in the Pioneer Valley and has over 225 salespeople and 11 offices with locations in East Longmeadow, Springfield, Sixteen Acres, Palmer, Chicopee, Feeding Hills, South Hadley, Longmeadow, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

For further information, please contact Laurence D. Landry at (413) 782-6000.

Susan Schack New Agent At Realty Firm

George R. Yerrall, President of Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors is pleased to announce that Susan Schack has joined the Longmeadow office of Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors.

Susan received a B.S. degree from Boston University and is currently enrolled in Law School at the Western New England College School of Law.

She is eager to assist you with the purchase or sale of your home with enthusiasm and dedication.

Susan currently resides in Longmeadow.

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ROLLING THUNDER is the latest attraction at Riverside Amusement Park. Here, first-time riders enjoy the fast-moving thrill ride. RELATED PHOTO ON PAGE 1. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.



Online Computers

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Drop by Thursday evenings for answers to your questions. Whether you already own a computer or looking to purchase, we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

PLEASE REMEMBER that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event.



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Funding From Strycharz Tourney Helps Schools' Health Program

The Strycharz family of Oak Ridge Country Club recently funded a gift of American Lung Association asthma education curricula to the Agawam public elementary schools, aimed at combating the condition which is rising across the country and remains the leading cause of school absenteeism in the United States.

The Strycharz funds provided each elementary schoolteacher in Agawam with an American Lung Association "Open Airways for Schools" curriculum kit, an asthma education curriculum designed to teach children with asthma the proper skills for management of their condition.

"Open Airways for Schools" is a national program of the American Lung Association which was created by the Columbia School of Physicians and Surgeons and has been field tested throughout the country. This curriculum kit, consisting of six lessons on asthma and its management, has been credited with decreasing asthma-related visits to the school nurse and even emergency room visits, by providing children with asthma the proper education to control their condition.

This program will also provide one peak flow meter, a diagnostic tool used for asthma, to be placed in each elementary school in Agawam. The American Lung Association and the Agawam

Public Schools plan to offer asthma education training next year to the faculty of the town's elementary schools in conjunction with the "Open Airways for Schools" program funded by the Strycharz family.

Funds for the "Open Airways for Schools" program in Agawam were raised through the Sophie Strycharz Memorial Golf Tournament held last September at Oak Ridge Country Club. Mrs. Strycharz suffered from asthma, and her family wished to raise funds to combat asthma and to create an awareness of the condition and its potential severity.

Funds raised through the Sophie Strycharz Memorial Tournament are also being used to provide scholarships for children with asthma to attend Camp Chest Nut, the American Lung Association's asthma camp, to help fund Breath Games, an athletic event for children with asthma, and for asthma research.

The Strycharz family is in the process of planning the Second Annual Sophie Strycharz Memorial Golf Tournament, scheduled for September 12, 1996, at Oak Ridge Country Club.

For information on this tournament or on asthma and its management, please call the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts at (413) 737-3506.



PART OF THE PROCEEDS from the Sophie Strycharz Memorial Golf Tournament helps the health program in the Agawam Schools. From left - James Moran, chairman of the American Lung Association's Lung Disease Committee; Kathleen McSweeney, health coordinator for the Agawam Schools; and Mono Strycharz, Oak Ridge Golf Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Chronic Pain Support Group To Meet At Mercy Hospital In July

The Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital in Springfield sponsors a free Chronic Pain Support Group for sufferers, their families, and friends. The next meeting will be conducted on July 9th from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center.

The group is led by Glenn Fagen, Ph.D., a clinical neuropsychologist at the Weldon Center. Dr. Fagen will discuss new technologies, the as, and treatments for chronic pain; participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and learn pain management techniques.

For more information, call Nancy Shimel, group coordinator, at (413) 748-6800.

Mobile Hearing Center To Visit Ag. Senior Center On July 22nd

Mercy Hospital's Weldon Hearing Center will conduct its next free hearing screening and hearing aid check at the Agawam Senior Center on Monday, July 22nd, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, full diagnostic hearing tests, evaluations, fittings, sales and service of hearing aids and assistive-listening devices, can be scheduled on a fee-for-service basis.

The hearing van's audiology equipment is operated by nationally certified audiologists from the Weldon Hearing Center at Mercy Hospital.

For a reservation, call the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.

Providence Hospital Schedules Sibling Class

The Center for Women's Health at Providence Hospital in Holyoke will conduct a Sibling Class on July 11th from 5:45 to 6:45 in room 5, third floor/west wing of the hospital.

The program, aimed at children ages three to 10, is designed to prepare big brothers and sisters-to-be for the arrival of a new baby. Instructor Rita Ramsey, R.N., uses storytelling, role-playing, and life-sized dolls, and allows ample time for questions and answers.

The cost is \$10 per family (sliding scale available); advance registration is required. For more information, call (413) 539-2950.

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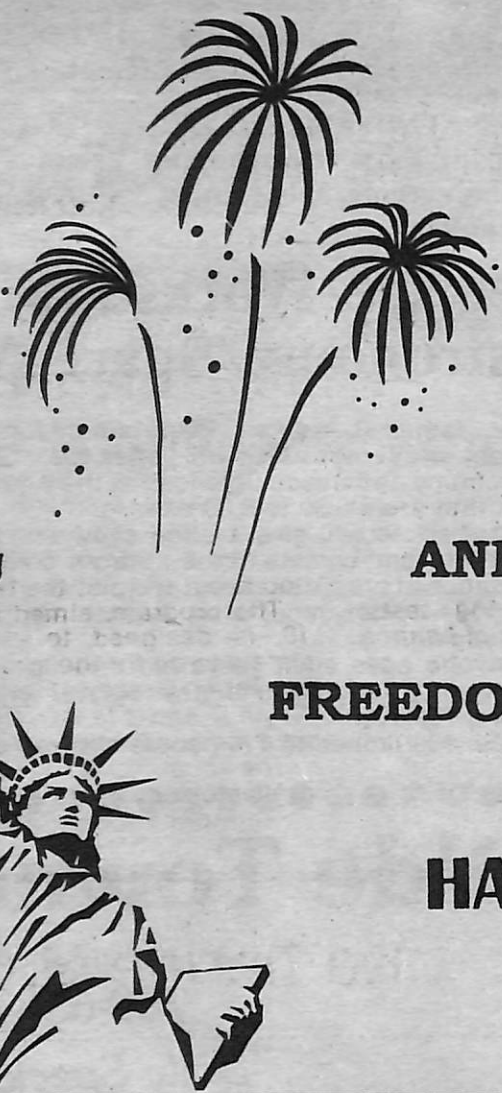


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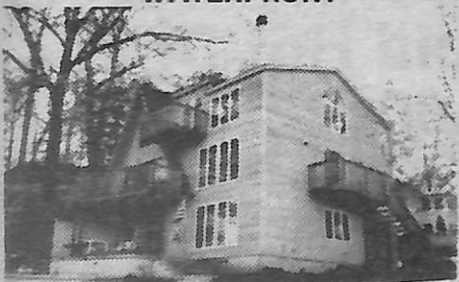


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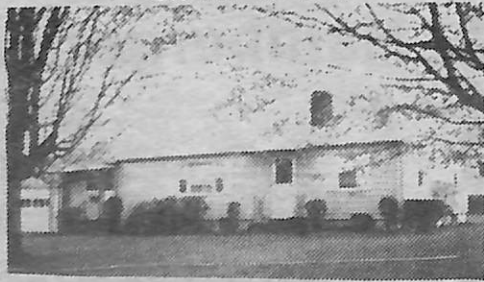
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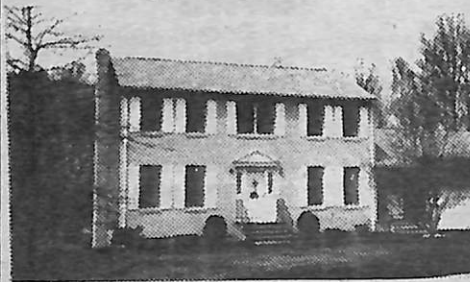
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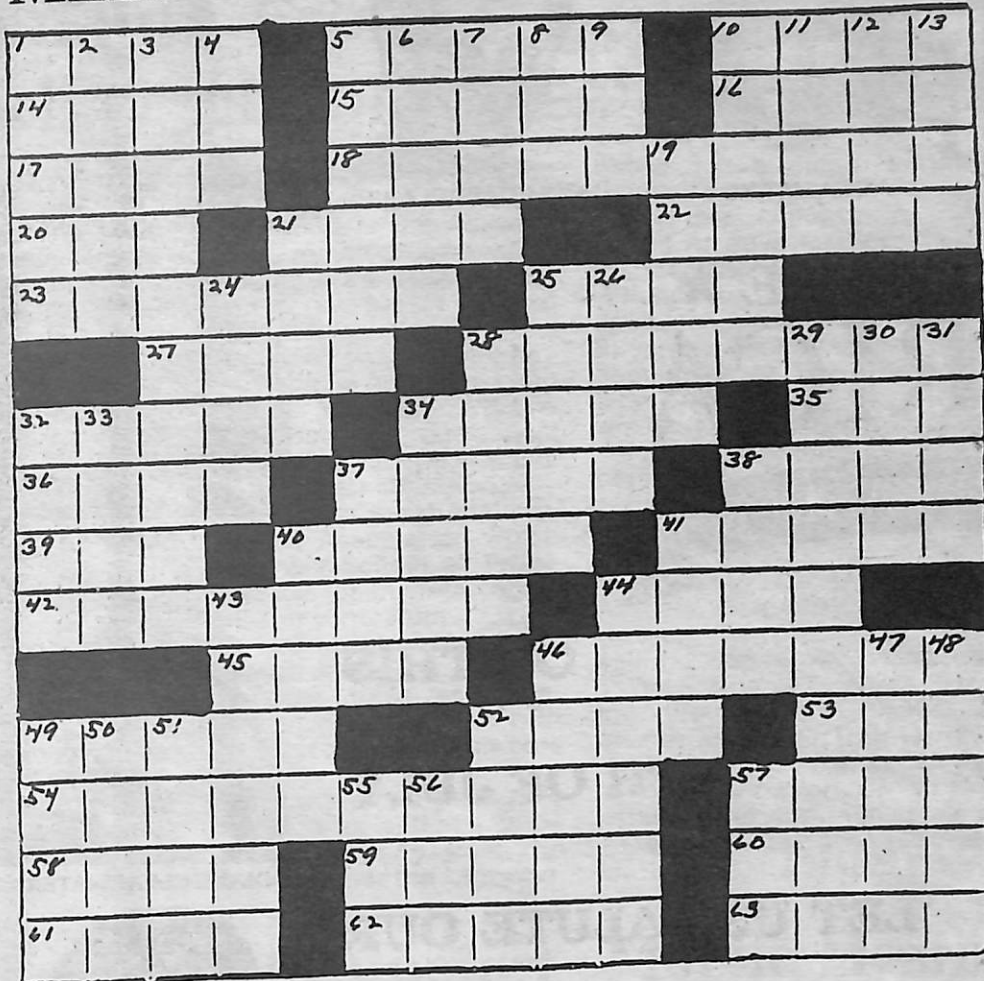
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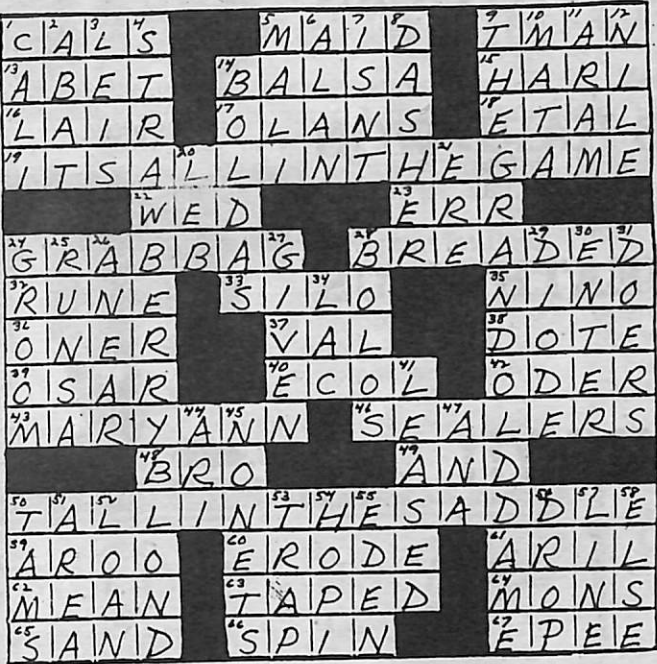


Arts

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



Last Week's Solution...



ACROSS

- 1 Capital of Peru
- 5 Family car
- 10 Close
- 14 Seed covering
- 15 Madrid museum
- 16 Add to the work force
- 17 Leaning tower city
- 18 "The —" (Maugham novel)
- 20 Beast of burden
- 21 Use as authority
- 22 Spiff up?
- 23 Lara's love
- 25 Jump high
- 27 Lubricates
- 28 Hags
- 32 "I'll be a — a gun"
- 34 Showdown
- 35 Miner's quest
- 36 Russian river
- 37 Cereal fibers
- 38 R.B.I. for one
- 39 Disfigure
- 40 Drinking vessel
- 41 "Fight — and nail"
- 42 Where a rock is revered
- 44 German mister
- 45 Bullring cheers
- 46 Threatened
- 49 Oscar or Obie
- 52 Heavy weights
- 53 Sumac the singer
- 54 Distasteful step by a reporter
- 57 Dundee man
- 58 S.A. monkey

DOWN

- 1 S.A. city
- 2 Type of coffee or lace
- 3 One who "spreads the faith"
- 4 "— carte"
- 5 Mistletoe units
- 6 Poetry muse
- 7 "In a —" (unknowing)
- 8 Stir

- 9 Neither's partner
- 10 Nepal mountain guide
- 11 Beast's pelt
- 12 Yen
- 13 Word with ager
- 19 Shovel
- 21 Range baby
- 24 Stringed instrument
- 25 Emulates Pisa's tower
- 26 B.P.O.E. members
- 28 Flippant
- 29 What "Renegade" rides
- 30 Part of Q.E.D.
- 31 Thomas the watch-maker
- 32 Type of pump
- 33 Test aloud
- 34 Unruly kids
- 37 Down in the dumps
- 38 Rail bird
- 40 Meir of Israel
- 41 Decades
- 43 Type of chair
- 44 Hair colorings
- 46 Snits and fits?
- 47 Act
- 48 Passe
- 49 Comic Johnson
- 50 Dam
- 51 "— boy!"
- 52 Louise
- 55 Chinese tea
- 56 Sawyer or Watson
- 57 Lumberman's tool

Brass Quartet Coming July 12th



THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL is presenting the New England Brass Quartet on the Veterans' Green in Agawam Center on Friday evening, July 12th, at 7:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

Lecture/Workshop About Astronomy/Space At Ag. Library

Mr. James R. Yankee, Planetarium Director of the Enrico Fermi High School in Vernon, CT, will offer his "Summer Lecture—Workshop in Astronomy and Space Science" at the Agawam Public Library on Tuesday, July 16th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Yankee will give a slide show and video presentation on planets, asteroids, and comets in the library's community room. Images of prominent stars and planets, new Earth-based telescopes, and the 1994 comet impacts on Jupiter will be some of the major topics of discussion.

Anyone ages eight years old and up and who is a resident of either Agawam or Feeding Hills may register for the program at the library or by calling 789-1550.

Space is limited to 110 people and registration is mandatory.

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SCOTT BELISLE, STEVE SANDS, AND JESSE RANDZIO meet, greet, and give autographs to Suffield's Spaulding School kindergartners who came to see their production of *"Beauty and the Beast"* at the Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills.

Beauty and The Beast Presented To Kids At Red Door Theatre

Spaulding School kindergarten children were treated to an end-of-the-year field trip to the Red Door Theatre to see STAGE's TEEN THEATRE ENSEMBLE present their production of *"Beauty and the Beast."*

This was the first time a school has been booked into STAGE's program and judging from the success of the event, it won't be the last.

One-hundred forty students and chaperones were bused to the intimate children's theatre in Feeding Hills to have a snack on the beautiful grounds of the Valley Community Church and then to attend the play at the theatre complex next door.

The TEEN ENSEMBLE THEATRE (T'NT) is comprised of local high school and college students who have been a part of STAGE's young people's theatre camps. Arranging with their schools to participate in what is known as "extended classroom" or "work study," the cast comprised of Jesse Randzio, Steve Sands, Marcy Secora, Scott Belisle, and Betsy Ingraham performed this new adaptation by co-producer Lyle Pearsons of Suffield.

Pearsons is a former teacher with the Suffield School System and left teaching 10 years ago to start Kit and Kaboodle and STAGE Productions with Margie Secora of Southwick, who taught music in Suffield.

"It was exciting to have some of my fellow teachers attend the show with children who had brothers and sisters that I taught 10 years ago," exclaimed Pearsons.

"This has been a dream of ours for the past two years," said Secora. "Because we are a small theatre, we can give extra time for the children to meet and greet the actors and to ask questions about what they saw and how it was accomplished."

Secora and Pearsons plan to offer additional productions next year for area students to attend. "We're close, we're inexpensive, and we offer a fun, quality experience in a relaxed atmosphere," continued Pearsons.

Pearsons, who also plays the storyteller in the "Playtime" series, was pleased with the response from both teachers and children, many whom had never heard of the six-year-old theatre which presents children's theatre productions all year-round.

School arts coordinators and PTO officials interested in learning more about STAGE's "Playtime" series can call (413) 789-2026 and leave a message with the Red Door Theatre Ticket Answering Service.

Please remember that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.

"Fern And Charlie Chipmunk Show" At The Agawam Library

The Agawam Library invites local families to the "Fern and Charlie Chipmunk Show" on Wednesday, July 10th, at 7:00 p.m.

Fern and Charlie will sing a variety of songs, old and new, and offer kids in the audience the chance to interact with the music throughout the program.

All ages, from preschoolers to senior citizens, are welcome to share in the fun. Visit the library at 750 Cooper Street or call us at 789-1550 to register.

This show is funded, in full, by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Rebecca Rising Has Original Poetry Published In Magazine

Rebecca Rising of 978 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills has just had original poetry published in *A Muse to Follow*, a treasury of today's poetry compiled by The National Library of Poetry.

The poem is entitled "Kids," and the main subject is what kids face growing up.

The National Library of Poetry seeks to discover and encourage poets like Rebecca Rising by sponsoring contests that are open to the public and by publishing poems in widely distributed hardback volumes.

Rebecca has been writing for four years and her favorite subjects and ideas, she says, are "anything important to me."

Poets interested in publication may send one original poem, any subject or style, 20 lines or less, to the National Library of Poetry, 11419-10 Cronridge Drive, Box 704-1379, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117. Please be sure to include your name and address with your poem.

All poems received are also entered in The National Library of Poetry's North American Open Poetry Contest, which awards over \$24,000 in prizes annually.

Suffield Players Slate Auditions For July

Suffield: Suffield Players will be holding auditions for its presentation of "Postmortem" by Ken Ludwig (a murder mystery in the classic style) on Sunday and Monday, July 14th and 15th.

Three men and four women, ages 25-50 are needed. Auditions will be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Ave., Suffield. Rehearsal dates will run from August 25th-October 16th.

Show dates are October 17th, 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th, November 1st, and November 2nd. Konrad Rogowski will be directing. For more information, call (413) 592-3755.

Scripts are available for reading at Kent Library.

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FERN and CHARLIE CHIPMUNK will be appearing at the Agawam Public Library on Wednesday, July 10th.

Westfield Theatre Group Slates Auditions For "Charlie's Aunt"

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, announced auditions for its fall show, *"Charlie's Aunt."* Auditions will be held on Monday, July 8th, and Tuesday, July 9th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street in Westfield.

There are parts for six males ranging in age from college age to mature adult. There are also four female roles: three of college age and one older woman.

Anyone interested in auditioning should come to the Woman's Club on the dates listed above, prepared to read. For more information, call the theatre at 572-6838.

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Education

Caroline Scherpa Wins "Principal's Award"



AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH EIGHTH GRADER Caroline Scherpa was named as the 1996 winner of the prestigious "Principal's Award" at the Agawam Junior High School. The award considers outstanding academic achievement and citizenship. From left - Principal Kevin Littlefield holding the plaque with the names of all previous winners; Caroline Scherpa holding her award as her proud parents, Donna and Louie Scherpa, Jr., look on. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



1996 PRINCIPAL'S AWARD WINNER Caroline Scherpa with members of her family and Jr. High Principal Kevin Littlefield at the awards assembly at the Jr. High on June 21st. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Please remember we are closed ALL DAY on Thursday, July 4th. Happy Holiday!!!



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Tutors Needed For New Volunteer Program At AHS

When school begins in September 1996, there will be on-site academic help available to our high school students in a program to be offered by the newly-formed Agawam School Volunteer Tutors.

This group senses a need for immediate one-on-one intervention when a student encounters difficulties at the challenging high school level, as our school population prepares to meet and, we hope, surpass the new state standards.

After initial consultation with Superintendent Ryder and newly-appointed AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski, an Advisory Board has been formed consisting of Mrs. Mary Bennett, Mr. John W. Bennett, Mrs. Sylvia Deliso, Mr. & Mrs. James Gregor, Mrs. Anne Mahoney, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Roberts, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Sgueglia, and Mr. John Zebryk.

The committee hopes to have tutors available to begin working at our high school in September. The areas to be addressed initially will be English, Writing, Math, Sciences, World and U.S. History, and possibly foreign languages. Tutoring will be offered in one-hour sessions between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at the high school.

The group invites all those who have qualifications in the above subject areas and are interested in working with young people at this level to contact Mrs. Bennett at 786-3739. Plans are to activate the program as soon as the school year begins.

Tech. High School's Class Of 1946 To Hold 50th Reunion This Fall

The 50th reunion of the class of 1946 of Springfield Technical High School will take place on Saturday, October 5, 1996 at The Oaks, 1070 Suffield Street (Route 75), Agawam.

If you have not received your invitation in the mail, contact Donald or Pauline Stuart at (413) 543-1365 or (413) 583-6857.

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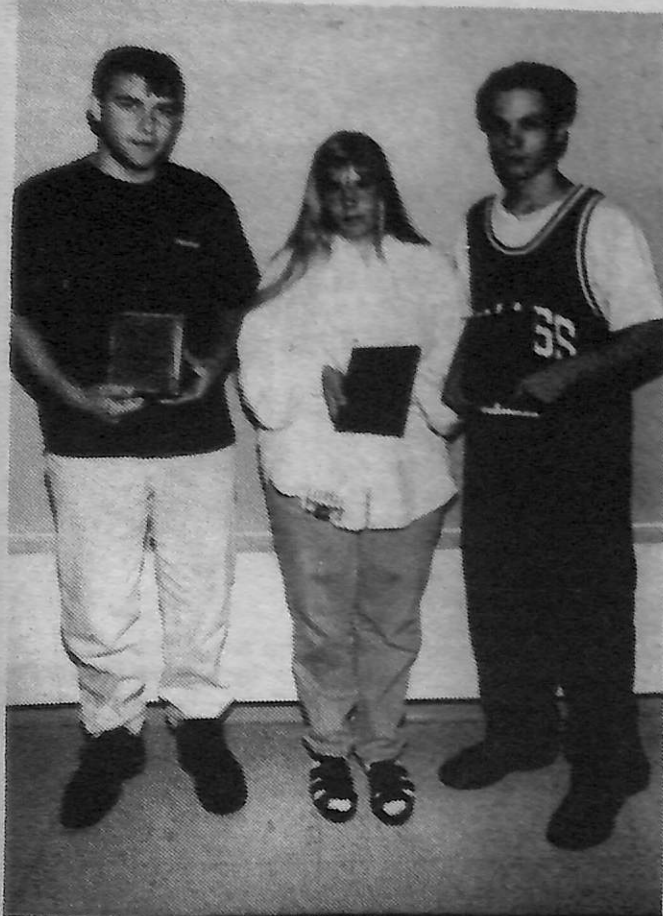
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THREE OF THE EIGHT Agawam High students who received awards from the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative's Vocational-Technical Education Center hold their awards. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Local Children Raise Money By "Hopping" For Easter Seals

Youngsters from the Agawam Early Childhood Center, the Sandcastle Day Care in Feeding Hills, and the Bambi School in Agawam, recently raised money by participating in an Easter Seal HOP-N-ING to help people with disabilities expand their independence. A total of \$1,534.80 was raised from the Agawam Early Childhood Center; \$443.25 from the Sandcastle Day Care; and \$294.75 from the Bambi School.

The children from these three facilities spent a week learning about disabilities: what causes them, how disabilities affect people's everyday lives, and the equipment that is used to cope. After that, they were ready to help.

Each child secured donations from family and friends for every hop performed during a three-minute HOP-N-ING. The funds raised help provide Easter Seal services for men, women, and children with disabilities.

Easter Seal services include summer camp, therapeutic swim programs, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, equipment loan, technology for independence, support groups for people recovering from strokes, and information and referral services.

Last year, nearly 16,000 children across Massachusetts learned about disabilities and hopped for Easter Seals, raising \$212,000. The HOP-N-ING was sponsored by T J Maxx, WB56, WWLP-TV22, and Business Equipment Depot.

Timothy F. LeDoux Earns First Honors On Clark Univ. Dean's List

Timothy F. LeDoux of Agawam has been named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This marks outstanding academic achievement during the spring 1996 semester.

To be eligible for this honor, students must have a grade point average of 3.8 or higher. No more than 20 percent of any class may receive Dean's List honors.

Clark University is a research university with a liberal arts college and several graduate schools. Located in Worcester, it was founded in 1887 and is the oldest graduate school in New England and the second oldest in the United States.

Clark currently enrolls approximately 3,000 students, including 2,000 undergraduate students, from 42 states and territories and 82 countries.

Regional Voke-Tech Center Honors Eight Agawam High Students For Excellence

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Their interests could hardly be less similar. Some work on just about anything with a motor; some design advertising brochures and flyers; some provide skilled nursing care.

While their career paths have little in common, eight Agawam High School students share one accomplishment — they have been named as the outstanding or most improved student in their respective occupational programs at the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative's Vocational-Technical Education Center.

Most improved awards were given to Mark Chao, Electronics; Katie Wells, Fashion Design and Merchandising; Joseph Fleming, Graphic Arts; and Michael Lyons, Technical Career Exploratory.

Receiving awards as the outstanding students in their programs were Karle King, Allied Health; Tim Lawrenchuk, Automotive Technology; Matthew Grych, Electronics; and Laura Cincotta, Fashion Design and Merchandising.

As the AHS liaison to the Voke-Tech center, faculty member Ralph Figy said the number of students enrolled in the vocational training program has grown by about 20 students this year.

"I think the negative stigma attached to the Voke-Tech Center is disappearing. People are seeing you don't have to go to Westfield to get a vocational program," Figy said. "Also, people realize that the students can go on to college after attending the LPVEC program."

Figy said students who have completed the vocational program at the LPVEC can receive college credit and a waiver of an introductory course at Holyoke Community College in a program similar to the Advanced Placement Program for academic subjects.

The most improved student award is given in each occupational program to the student who has progressed significantly during the year and has attained competence in their technical training area. The outstanding student award from each occupational program is given to the student who has demonstrated exemplary competency in their field and is pursuing post-secondary training or seeking employment in their career area.

"This is the largest number of awards we've ever had," Figy said. "These kids have had a great year."

Jr. High Student Steven Antaya Takes Second Place Prize At Junior Solar Sprint

Steven Antaya, a student at Agawam Junior High School, captured the Second Place prize for Innovation at the 1996 New England Junior Solar Spring New England Championship held on Saturday, June 15, 1996 in Beverly, Massachusetts. Antaya bested over 200 students from across New England who competed in the nation's largest model solar-powered car competition.

Antaya, who was coached by Agawam Junior High teacher John Burns, designed and constructed his car as part of the Junior Solar Sprint curriculum program utilized by hundreds of school districts around the nation. The New England program is sponsored by The United States Department of Energy and The Solar Now Project, a program dedicated to the promotion of education about renewable energy.

"Steven's second-place finish is a remarkable feat amid intense competition from students all over New England," said Carmel Vallanti-Smith, Director of The Solar Now Project. "The New

England Championship features the best of model solar cars from several states. Steven's second-place prize represents a lot of ingenuity and hard work that is to be congratulated."

Junior Solar Sprint is a hands-on science program drawing on students' knowledge of engineering, math, and the environment. Students are provided with a small solar panel and a motor and, with assistance from their teachers and area volunteers, build a car designed to run using only the power of the sun for energy. The program culminates in a series of races on the local, state, and regional level to determine the most successful design and engineering aspects of solar car construction.

Participation in Junior Solar Sprint is open to all students in the seventh and eighth grades. For more information on how to get involved, please call The Solar Now Project at (508) 927-9000, extension 2140.

YOU TURN OUR PAGES each and every week for all the hometown news.

Cormier On Dean's List At UHartford

Darren Cormier of Feeding Hills was among the students at the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Hartford, who have been named to the dean's list for the spring semester of the 1995-96 academic year.

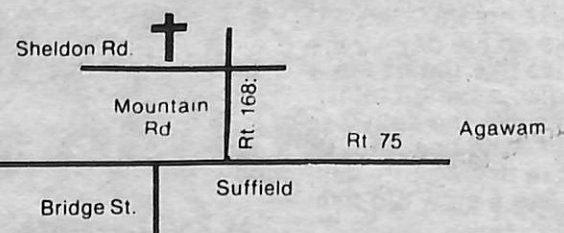
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“Poetry Circles”

Agawam Middle School
Grade 6, Room 303 - Mrs. DeFilipi

Colors

Color like white
Hot like the sun
Cold like snow
Sounds like a blizzard
Tastes like whipped cream
Smells like wild fruits
Looks like a cloud in the sky
Texture like a stuffed animal
Moves like the wind

by Albert Grimaldi

Like what

Color like red
Hot like volcano erupting
Cold like ice
Sounds like exploding
Tastes like hot soup
Smells like gas
Looks like fire
Texture like melted plastic
Moves like tar

by Kerri Fruwirth

The Snowy Day, On The Bus

Black icy street.
Visible breath floats.
Person fell in snow.
Bus was late.

Sat down on seat.
Cold icy seat.
Sleepy looking people on bus.
Frozen window.
Wiped tiny ice off.
More snow from the sky.
Shining little snow flakes.

by Kei Fujloka

Snow Day

School delays, cancellation, on radio
Snow flakes
Snow melting
My dog's cold nose
Skidding on ice streets
More snow on ground
Snow on top of buildings
Fell in snow

by Dan Kennedy

Like What

Peacefulness is the color blue. Like a baby blue blanket. It's hot like a fire burning in the fireplace. It's cold like a cool breeze, blowing through my window. It sounds like a church choir. It tastes like an angel food cake. It smells like a tree swaying in the wind. It looks like the sun's rays shining through the clouds. It feels like a furry, white cat. It moves like a lion looking for its prey.

by Alyssa Goodrow

If I Ran the World

If I ran the world action films movies would be rated PG.
If I ran the world there would be no such thing as homework.

by Jamie DelPeschio

Blue Is Like...

Color like Blue
Hot like steam
Cold like an ice day
Sounds like the ocean
Tastes like a breath mint
Smells like the salty ocean
Looks like the beautiful sky
Texture like a puffy soft cloud
Moves like a slow old fish

by Kari Trauschke

Relaxation Is

Relaxation is blue like the sky,
and also like the ocean.
It whispers in my mind.
It reminds me of the times I am alone.
It makes me feel dreamy or calm.
It makes me want to dream always.

by Meredith Willett

LIKE WHAT?

Color like gold.
Hot like molten lava.
Cold like a statue on a winter day.
Sounds like classical music.
Tastes like caramel.
Smells like a mid autumn day.
Looks like a piece of gold.
Texture like silk.
Moves like a car in a parade.

by Matthew McGrath

Silver Is a Moonbeam

Silver is the moonlight,
Glimmering on the river.
As the river starts to flow,
Look close to see it quiver.
Happiness is silver as the
Unicorns great mane.
Silver is the silver
That gives a tickly pain.
It is also the spark in the
Eye of a happy child.
It reminds me of when I first
Met the man in the moon.
It helps me feel the gentleness
Of a swan.

by Renee Couture

Sight Sound Smell Feel Touch

Color like light blue
Hot like water boiling
Cold like a freezer
Sounds like the ocean
Tastes like salt water
Smells like a lily
Looks like the daytime sky
Texture like a seashell
Moves like an ocean wave
Fear like when you see a ghost
Cold like standing in a freezer

by Brian Barnes

Funky Nicknames

Some are cute,
Some are funny,
Some are funky,
and others are as sweet as honey.

Some come by accident,
others from having a long name,
Still others are stupid and you wish
you didn't have them for a nickname.

by Jackie Le Grand

IT REMINDS ME OF...

GREEN is like grass.
GREEN is like an apple.
GREEN is like grapes.
It is so relaxing.
It reminds me of the beach.
Of course because it is the color GREEN!

by Lauren Malone

SNOW FALLING

Cold and Windy
Leaves, trees and snowflakes
Hair a mess sticking straight up
Buses late
Along I go

by Kaitlin Morris

Hot

The orange is making me feel hot and sweaty
like a raging fire. I start to get bad heartburn. I feel
like I just swallowed a match.

by Wade Collins

Pig

I ran down the stairs, scared half to death,
“There's a pig in my bed!” I cried out of breath.
“There's a pig in your bed?” Moe said, startled at
me.
“Yes, a pig in my bed! Quick, come and see.”

We raced up the stairs with me in the lead,
“Are you sure about this? This pig that you saw?”
“Yes! It's true! See the lump of a head?”
I cried as we reached for the sheets of my bed.

Moe took a breath, and stepped forward to see,
While I was so scared I thought I might pee.
And then Moe laughed, what a strange sight,
To see someone laugh in the mid of the night.

“Silly Renee, there's no pig in your bed!”
“There isn't?” I stepped up to the bed.
And looked down on the pillow,
“Why it's only Alyssa, snoring!” I giggled.

Then she woke, and to her I said, “You snore!”
And I laughed off my head.
Now a pig in my bed was pretty saw, but to laugh
off my head? That's pretty bad.

by Renee Couture

Anger is red
like a donkey's
head
when it blows up
and also like a red cup
it flashed through my mind
it reminds of the time
Oklahoma's
building went BOOM
it makes me feel sad because it
was bad and it makes me want to
PUKE!

by Tony Valenti

WAVES

Color like blue
Hot like blue thunder
Cold like the ocean
Sounds like waves crashing
Tastes like blueberries
Smells like blue juice
Looks like the sky
Texture like fluffy cotton
Moves like a flash through the sky

by Vinnie Outhuse

Poems

Happy is blue like a rushing waterfall and also
like the big blue sky. It goes through my mind. It
reminds me of when I went swimming. It makes
me feel happy like a clown. It makes me want to
get up and dance.

by Michael DeCaro

There Once was a Pig From East Flushing

There once was a pig from East Flushing.
To wherever he went he was rushing.
So great was his speed
That his legs took the lead.
That silly old pig from East Flushing.

by Andy Korney

Poems

Being scared is black like dreary nights and like
it's harder to breathe. It races through my mind. It
reminds me of the time I was in pitch black
darkness and someone was smoking. It makes me
feel scared or frightened. It makes me want to
close my eyes and make it all go away.

Calm is blue like the ocean and also like the sky. It
flows into my mind. It reminds me of the time I
was at the beach and I watched the water wash up
on the shore. It makes me feel relaxed like I'm
ready to sleep. It makes me want to go asleep very
quickly.

by Kara Dominick

Like What

Color like orange
Hot like a searing fire
Cold like a frozen orange
Sounds like the hum of an electric car
Tastes like a carrot
Smells like a burning forest fire
Looks like a jagged bolt of lightning
Texture like liquid lava
Moves like a fire, slowly burning outward

by Craig Jendza

The Happy And Sad Poem

Happy is like a soft summer sky and
also like a deep blue ocean.
It runs through my mind.
It reminds me of the time I said good-bye.
It makes me sad like a cat with a broken leg.
It makes me want to cry aloud.

by Robyn Gingras

Poems

Happy and relaxed is multiple colors
Like diamonds and also like rainbows.
It flowed through my mind and it reminds me
Of the time I went to Disney World.
It makes me feel great
Like great when there is no school.
It makes me want to daydream.

by Nicholas Carreau

If I Ran the WORLD!

If I ran the world action films movies would be
rated PG!
If I ran the world there would be no such thing as
homework!
If I ran the world everyone would get what they
want!

by Jamie Del Peschio

The Beginning Of Spring

The snow is on the ground
I wish it would go away
But spring is on the way
The snow is melting very fast, I see the crocus as I
pass
The snow is gone, here I am sitting in my blossom-
ing cherry tree

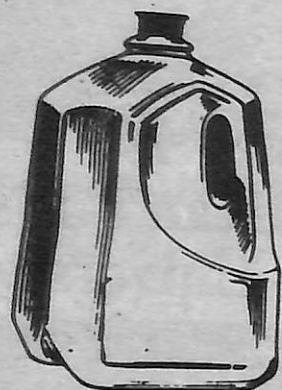
by Ashley King

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Congratulations to all of the graduates of the Class of '96!



Students Named Lions Club Scholars



THE AGAWAM LIONS CLUB presented scholarships at a Scholarship Dinner at the Lions Den. From left - Raymond Olson, incoming president; John Higgins, Melissa Fleming, Kelly Carmody, and Alfred Albano, scholarship winners; and Anthony C. Bonavita, outgoing Lions president. MISSING: Selena Machia and Joseph Zabielski, Jr. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Feeding Hills Students Receive Degrees From Western New England

The following Feeding Hills residents were among the 872 graduate and undergraduate students who were awarded degrees from Western New England College at the recently held commencement ceremony at the Springfield Civic Center.

Robert M. Banspach received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree. He was a member of the American Criminal Justice Association, the Pre-Law Society, the Student Senate, and the yearbook staff.

Kevin R. Fleury, son of Richard and Mary Fleury, received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree. He was a member of the Student Senate, and served as a teaching assistant and as a student ambassador.

Marc A. St. Onge, son of Edward and Gisela St. Onge, received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in computer science. He served as a resident advisor, and was named the Resident Advisor—Team Player of the Year.

Western New England College is a private, coeducational institution located on a 131-acre suburban campus in Springfield, MA, with an additional 16 sites throughout the Commonwealth.

The College serves full-time and part-time students with undergraduate programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering, and graduate programs in its Schools of Business, Engineering, and Law.

Local Students Named To Honor Roll At Suffield Academy

The following area students were among those who were named to Suffield Academy's honor roll for the third term:

*** Grade 9:**
Jeffrey Beaudette of Agawam, **Sarah Cowan** of Agawam, and **Christopher Knight** of Feeding Hills.

*** Grade 10:**
Michael Albro of Feeding Hills.

*** Grade 12:**
William Rivers of Feeding Hills, and **Erica Schlafer** of Agawam.

Founded in 1833, Suffield Academy is an independent, co-educational college preparatory school in Suffield, Connecticut.



JOAN L. MINEO

Joan L. Mineo Is Named To Dean's List At Syracuse University

Joan L. Mineo, daughter of John and Mary Ellen Mineo of 70 Debra Lane, Agawam, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 1995 and spring 1996 semesters at Syracuse University, L.C. Smith College of Engineering & Computer Science.

Joan, a Mechanical Engineering major, has been appointed as a G.E. Foundation Summer Research Fellow. Joan has been awarded two Syracuse University Scholarships in recognition of her excellent academic record.

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Jr. High Honor Society Inducted



THE RICHARD BARRY CHAPTER of the National Junior Honor Society was inducted in ceremonies at the Agawam Junior High School recently. IN PHOTO ABOVE, members of the school's concert band performed at the ceremonies. NJHS members are pictured below.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Year's Top Students



BRIAN CHECHILE and DIANNA DISTEFANO were named the 8th grade "Physical Education Students of the Year" at the Junior High for 1995-1996. Assistant Principal Mark Costanzi is congratulating this dynamic duo. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Heather Wynne Earns Bachelor's Degree From Trinity College

Heather Wynne, daughter of Ms. Carolyn G. Wynne of Feeding Hills, and Mr. Daniel P. Wynne, Jr., recently graduated from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

Wynne received a Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology. She is a graduate of Agawam High School.

Trinity, founded in 1823, is an independent, nonsectarian, liberal arts college that is consistently ranked among the nation's best for undergraduate training. About 1,750 students from 47 states and 24 countries are enrolled at Trinity, whose 100-acre campus is located in Connecticut's capital city.

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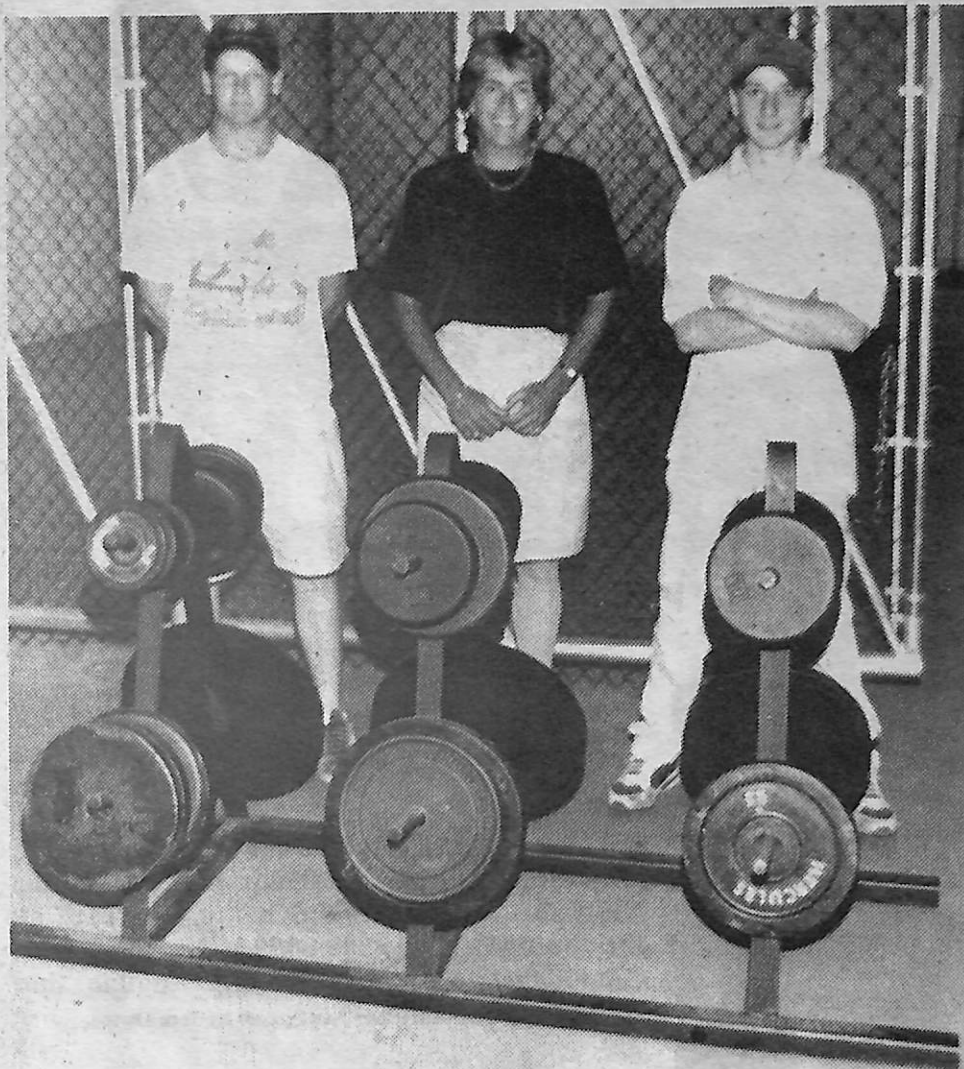
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AHS Weight-Room Spruce-Up



AGAWAM HIGH STUDENTS Josh Maynard and Damien Lemelin made free weight holders for the gym room at the school. The two are being thanked by Athletic Director Kathleen McSweeney. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Hocus-Pocus At Perry Lane



AS THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDED at Perry Lane's Early Childhood Center, children are being entertained and delighted by a magician. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Check our classifieds - AAN!!!

Agawam Students Receive Expo Alumni Scholarships

The Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund has awarded \$16,350 in scholarships to 45 students for the 1996-97 academic year.

The scholarship awards, given to students with roots in the Exposition Area of West Springfield, are primarily based on academic achievement and need. In addition to its own scholarship awards, the Exposition Area Fund administers several independently funded memorial scholarship awards.

This year's award recipients include Steven Bertolino of Agawam, a 1996 Cathedral High School graduate, who received the Thomas Gamelli Memorial Award. Other local 1996 high school graduates receiving awards from the Exposition Area Fund include Nicholas Davlo of Agawam High School.

In addition, scholarships have been awarded by the Exposition Area Fund to numerous students already attending college, including Derek Poole, Marie Fortler, Yolanda Clarmatorl, Kristin Michnovetz, Rose Pignatere, and Nicole Racicot, all from Agawam.

The Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund has provided more than \$250,000 in financial assistance to hundreds of college and college-bound students since its inception more than 30 years ago. Scholarship funds are raised through annual events sponsored by the scholarship committee and through contributions, which are tax-deductible.

The next scholarship committee event, an annual golf tournament, will be held on Sunday, August 25th, at Shaker Farms Country Club in Westfield.

John Manning On Dean's List For Spring At Hamilton College

John Manning, the son of John and Helen Manning of Oak Lane, Feeding Hills, has been named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the 1996 spring semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for earning an average of 90 or above during the term.

A rising sophomore at Hamilton, Manning is a graduate of Agawam High School.

An independent, highly selective, liberal arts college, Hamilton was founded in 1812 and is today among the oldest colleges in the United States.

It is named for Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the treasury, and features a strong curriculum in the humanities, the arts, the natural sciences, and the social sciences.

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ROBERT M. BANSPACH

Robert M. Banspach Receives Bachelor's Degree From WNEC

Robert M. Banspach of Feeding Hills was among the 872 graduate and undergraduate students who were awarded degrees from Western New England College at the commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 18, 1996 at the Springfield Civic Center.

He is the son of Robert and Lorraine Banspach and the brother of Dawn. The family resides on Christopher Lane in Feeding Hills.

Robert received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree from Dr. Beverly W. Miller, president of Western New England College.

He is a member of the American Criminal Justice Society. Robert was a member of the Student Senate and served on many student groups and clubs. He was also on the Dean's List for the spring semester.

Western New England College is a private, coeducational institution located a 131-acre suburban campus in Springfield, MA, with an additional 16 sites throughout the Commonwealth.

The College serves full-time and part-time students with undergraduate programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering, and graduate programs in its Schools of Business, Engineering, and Law.

Entertaining At Clark



POPULAR CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINERS
Lyle Pearsons of Suffield and Margie Secora of Southwick recently performed for the kids at Clark School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

First Year Together Ends For Brownies 551



BROWNIE TROOP 551 has completed their first year together. They decided to have their last Brownie meeting of the year at Longhi's Golf in Southwick. Brownie leaders are Linda Longhi, Barbara Sellers, and Laure Debarge.

Local Students Attain Dean's List At HCC

Toby Tamarkin, Holyoke Community College's Vice President of Academic Affairs, has announced the names of local students who achieved the Dean's List for the 1996 Spring Semester.

Full-time students named to the Dean's List have completed at least 12 semester hours of courses and achieved at least a 3.2 quality point average. Part-time students named to the Dean's List have completed less than 12 semester hours of courses and achieved a 3.2 quality point average.

*** Full-Time Students From Agawam:**

Janice Elsebae, Robert W. Magistri, Irene E. Maklary, Anthony L. Maloni, Jason G. Pannier, Kathryn M. Poulos, and Jessica C. Provost.

*** Full-Time Students From Feeding Hills:**

Ronald J. Ardolino, Lisa Bartolucci, Teresa M. Hart, Herman B. Hochreich, Labetha A. Lacienski, Lisa R. Montgomery, Claire S. O'Toole, Alison M. Ritter, and Nicholas P. Rondinelli.

*** Part-Time Students From Agawam:**

Jennifer M. Collins, Jennifer A. Domangue, Irene M. Gosselin, Erin E. Grady, Kerry A. Jedziniak, Kelley A. Kondas, Karleen M. Martin, Philippa J. Owen, Maurice V. Spear III, and Michael Wall.

*** Part-Time Students From Feeding Hills:**

Thomas M. Cordis, Enrico N. Manes, George D. Moriarty, Laura J. Ringuette, and Christopher Roos.

Please remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. To subscribe, call us at 786-7747 or 786-8137. Thanks.

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Junior Honor Society Holds Penny Carnival

On Saturday, June 15th, students in Agawam were invited to participate in the second annual Junior Honor Society Penny Carnival at the Junior High School.

Organized, constructed, and run by the members of the Richard H. Barry Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, the event raised \$206.35 for the M.S.P.C.A. of Hampden County.

This year, the project was expanded to include all four elementary schools and included 18 individual games. One of the most popular booths was the wet sponge toss thrown at members of the honor society. Considering how hot it was on the day of the event, the soaking felt wonderful and generated a lot of pennies.

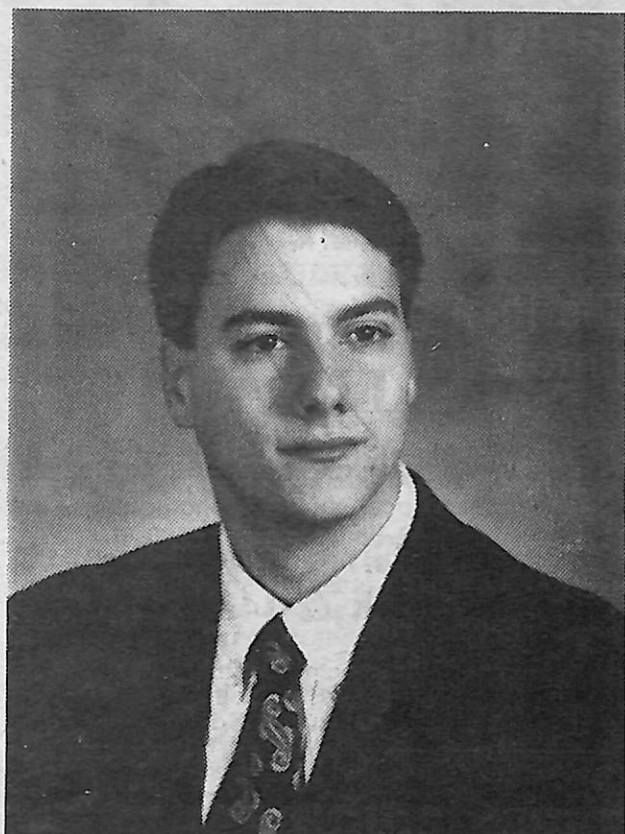
In the final accounting, the various booths and Kool Aid sales generated \$129.50 in pennies (or 6,500 in total). The Society looks forward to possibly continuing this tradition, so save your pennies.

The students in the honor society vote on all of their own activities and decide by majority vote on the charity selected each year. Therefore, next year's project will be determined by the current seventh grade members some time during next spring.

Frank Meagher and Donna Watson, advisors to the Junior Honor Society, would like to offer a special "thank you" to the tellers at Woronoco Savings Bank for their help in handling all the change.



THE RICHARD H. BARRY CHAPTER of the National Junior Honor Society recently held a Penny Carnival at the school for elementary-aged school children. Funds raised at the event were donated to the local MSPCA. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



NICHOLAS BALBONI

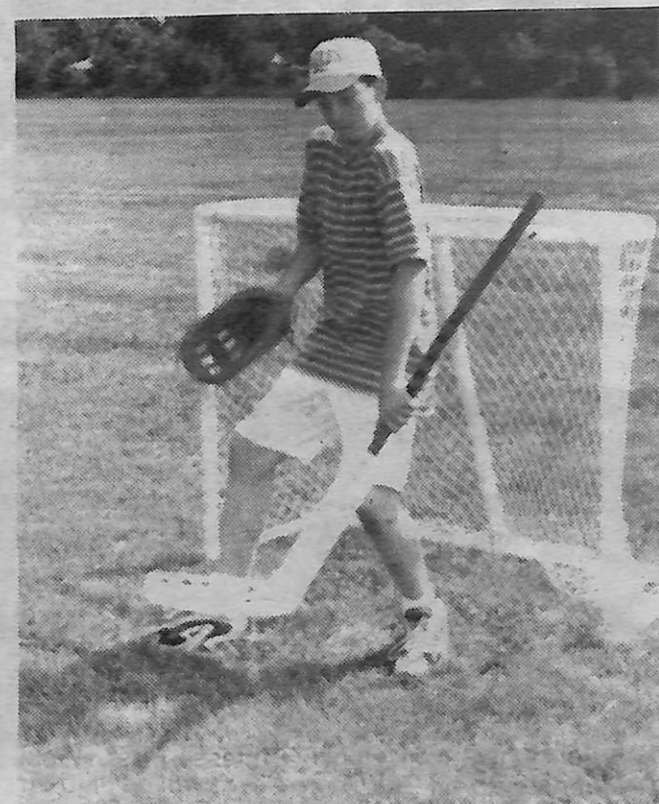
Nicholas Balboni Earns Degree From Union College, N.Y.

On June 16th, Nicholas Balboni graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York, with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering.

Nick recently accepted a position with the Exxon Corporation. He is currently touring Europe before assuming his duties at Exxon's corporate headquarters in New Jersey.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Balboni of 25 Ohio Avenue, West Springfield, and the grandson of Mrs. Carlo Balboni of 25 King Street, Agawam, and the late Mr. Balboni.

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PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL Penny Carnival held at the Jr. High by the school's Richard H. Barry Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society included Michael Federico (left) and Brian Gilhooly. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Agawam & Feeding Hills Students Earn Degrees From American International College

American International College President Harry J. Couriotes, celebrating his 50th year at the College, awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees at the College's 111th Commencement ceremony held recently at the Springfield Civic Center.

Among the students who received degrees were the following area residents:

*** From Agawam:**

Barbara L. Charest, Bachelor of Business Administration; Louise Farney, Bachelor Science in Nursing; Jeffrey M. Garrity, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Savy K. Hang, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Kirk Quintin, Master of Business Administration; and Ronald J. Szoka, Master of Business Administration.

*** From Feeding Hills:** Linda A. Bouchard, Master of Arts in Educational Psychology; Maria T. Cafaro, Bachelor of

Business Administration; Jennifer A. Lomelino, Bachelor of Science; Silvana C. Manes, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Carol A. Meagher, Bachelor of Science in Human Services; and Jodi E. Metz, Bachelor of Business Administration.

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Best local news



Sports

Sacred Heart AA 10-13 Girls' Champs



MEMBERS OF T & R WHOLESALE, champs of the 1996 Sacred Heart Athletic Association's girls' 10-13 softball league. Back row, from left - Coach Bill Nowell, Jennifer Gensheimer, Amy Richards, Lauren Gaffney, Alyson Thomas, Manager Bill Gensheimer, and Coach Don Richards. Front row - Nicki Gessay, Cassandra Greco, Colleen Lawlor. Middle row - Shana Richter, Alyson Nowell, Angelina Cortese, Tara Swinicki, Jamie Santos.

Annual Fitness First Vicki Sleeper Golf Slated For August 3rd At Shaker Farms

The "FOREth" Annual Fitness First Vicki Sleeper Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, August 3, 1996 at Shaker Farms Country Club from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

The format will be "scramble," and the entry fee is only \$65 per person and includes greens fees, cart, steak or chicken dinner (to be served around 7:00 p.m.), great door prizes, hole-in-one contest entry, and longest-drive contest entry.

The entry deadline is July 27, 1996. The field is

limited, so register early! Singles and pairs will be matched up.

The dinner banquet fee for non-golfers is \$20, and the cost for tee or green company sponsors is \$50.

For an application form and/or more information, contact Fitness First Health & Fitness Center, 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, (413) 786-1460.

Check
our
classified

Townsfolk turn our pages each week for all the hometown sports - ADVERTISER NEWS

"Summer Skate To Ski Race Camp" Is Seeking Applicants

A "Summer Skate To Ski Race Camp" will be held this year from July 30th through August 2nd at Springfield College, 263 Alden Street, Springfield, MA.

It will begin with a check-in on July 30th from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., and will conclude with the check-out at 4:00 p.m. on August 2nd. The athletes will stay overnight in the dorms at Springfield College and dine at the Chaney Hall Cafeteria.

Several guest speakers will address the athletes, such as Allen Goldberg (a local sports psychologist) and a wallclimbing expert to teach the proper methods of climbing and repelling.

The camp is offered to girls and boys ages 10 to 17, with the emphasis on building sound ski racing techniques. Physical, tactical, and psychological aspects of alpine ski training will be focused on during the week of the camp.

Some of the following activities the camp will include are: stubby and full-length training gates; racing tactics (line for G.S. and Slalom); video analysis; use of Olympic-size pool; indoor gym activities and climbing walls.

Get a jump on the competition and have fun while developing your racing skills. This fast-paced camp is for girls and boys with a desire to learn all aspects of becoming a great athlete.

For further information and an application form, call (413) 789-RACE or contact Glenn Olson, c/o "Summer Skate To Ski Race Camp," 47 Oak Lane, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Fitness Room At AHS Has Summer Hours

Beginning July 8th and continuing through August 16th, the Fitness Room at Agawam High School will be opened from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for high school students.

Advanced Girls' Soccer Set For July 13th & 14th

UMASS women's coach Jim Rudy and Agawam boys' coach Dwight Northrup will conduct an advanced girls' soccer camp on Saturday and Sunday, July 13th and 14th. The hours are 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., and the cost is \$25.

To register or for more information, call Dwight Northrup at 734-3926.

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Agawam Piranhas Defeat Tri-Y Team At Junior High School

The Agawam Piranhas swim team won against the Tri-Y team by a score of 340-217 on June 18, 1996 at the Agawam Junior High School. The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

The team of Megan Lalli, Katelyn Morytko, Caitlin Hurley, and Jennifer Sacco placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Megan Lalli, second, and Katelyn Morytko, third in 25-yard freestyle; Jennifer Sacco, second, and Megan Lalli, third in 50-yard freestyle; Michelle Grupp, first, Megan Lalli, second, and Katelyn Morytko, third in 25-yard backstroke; Caitlin Hurley, first, and Jennifer Sacco, second in 25-yard breaststroke.

Boys 8 & under:

The team of Shaun Bruso, Benjamin Bruso, Jeffrey Lagasse, and Brian Boglisch placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

Benjamin Bruso, first in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Benjamin Bruso, Shaun Bruso, Brian Boglisch, and Jeffrey Lagasse placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Shaun Bruso, first, and Brian Boglisch, second in 25-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 25-yard butterfly; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Brian Boglisch, second in 50-yard freestyle; Benjamin Bruso, first in 25-yard backstroke; Shaun Bruso, first in 25-yard breaststroke.

Girls 9-10:

The team of Jessica Lalli, Bethany Reid, Abriana Spagnoli, and Julia Weisgerber placed first in the 200-yard medley relay; the team of Kristyn Ward, Irena Klimczak, Angela Vinton, and Leigh Stepanian placed second; and the team of Rebecca Carey, Kelly Follis, Leeann Morytko, and Sarah Meiers placed third.

Abriana Spagnoli, second, and Jessica Lalli, third in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Julia Weisgerber, Leigh Stepanian, Angela Vinton, and Bethany Reid placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Kristyn Ward, Rebecca Carey, Irena Klimczak, and Jessica Lalli placed second.

Bethany Reid, first, and Leigh Stepanian, second in 50-yard freestyle; Julia Weisgerber, second, and Abriana Spagnoli, third in 50-yard butterfly; Julia Weisgerber, first, and Angela Vinton, second in 100-yard freestyle; Jessica Lalli, first, and Leeann Morytko, second in 50-yard backstroke; Bethany Reid, second, and Irena Klimczak, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10:

Anthony Ruelli, first, and Connor Dooley, second in 50-yard freestyle; Connor Dooley, first, and Anthony Ruelli, second in 100-yard freestyle; Connor Dooley, first in 50-yard backstroke; Anthony Ruelli, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Kimberly Churma, Allison Morris, Christina O'Brien, and Brittany Theriaque placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Allison Morris, third in 200-yard individual medley.

The team of Christina Climo, Lindsey Francis, Brittany Theriaque, and Lauren Gaffney placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Christina Climo, second, and Kimberly Churma, third in 200-yard freestyle; Christina O'Brien, first, Kimberly Churma, second, and Brittany Theriaque, third in 50-yard freestyle; Christina O'Brien, third in 50-yard butterfly; Christina Climo, second, and Lauren Gaffney, third in 100-yard freestyle; Kimberly Churma, second, and Brittany Theriaque, third in 50-yard backstroke; Christina O'Brien, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 11-12:

The team of Daniel Adamski, Michael Follis, Paul Lagasse, and Kyle Sullivan placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Paul Lagasse, first in 200-yard individual medley.

The team of Kyle Sullivan, Matt Lawlor, Paul Lagasse, and Daniel Adamski placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Laurence Rocke, second, and Matt Lawlor, third in 200-yard freestyle; Daniel Adamski, third in 50-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, first in 50-yard butterfly; Kyle Sullivan, third in 100-yard freestyle; Daniel Adamski, first in 50-yard backstroke; Michael Follis, second, and Laurence Rocke, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 13-14:

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Shannon Costa, Katherine Chmura, Rachel Morris, and Amanda Boissonnea placed second.

Katherine Chmura, third in 200-yard individual medley.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Shannon Costa, Rebecca Morytko, Amanda Boissonnea, and Rachel Morris placed second; and the team of Lauren Kunkler, Katie Gallagher, Kaitlin Morris, and Jennifer Reid placed third.

Shannon Costa, first in 50-yard freestyle; Jennifer Reid, third in 100-yard butterfly; Amanda Boissonnea, third in 100-yard freestyle; Shannon Costa, first, and Lauren Kunkler, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

Boys 13-14:

Nathan Adamski, first in 200-yard individual medley and first in 200-yard freestyle; Matthew Francis, first in 50-yard freestyle; Nathan Adamski, first, and Matthew Francis, second in 100-yard freestyle.

Girls 15-18:

Eileen Daly, second in 200-yard freestyle; Sarah Nacewicz, first, and Brenna McGinn, second in 50-yard freestyle; Eileen Daly, second in 100-yard butterfly; Sarah Nacewicz, first, and Brenna McGinn, second in 100-yard freestyle; Brenna McGinn, first in 100-yard backstroke; Sarah Nacewicz, second in 100-yard breaststroke.

Boys 15-18:

Joel Ward, first in 50-yard freestyle, first in 100-yard freestyle, and first in 100-yard breaststroke.

Suburban Girls' 10-13 Softball Plans Car Wash For July 6th

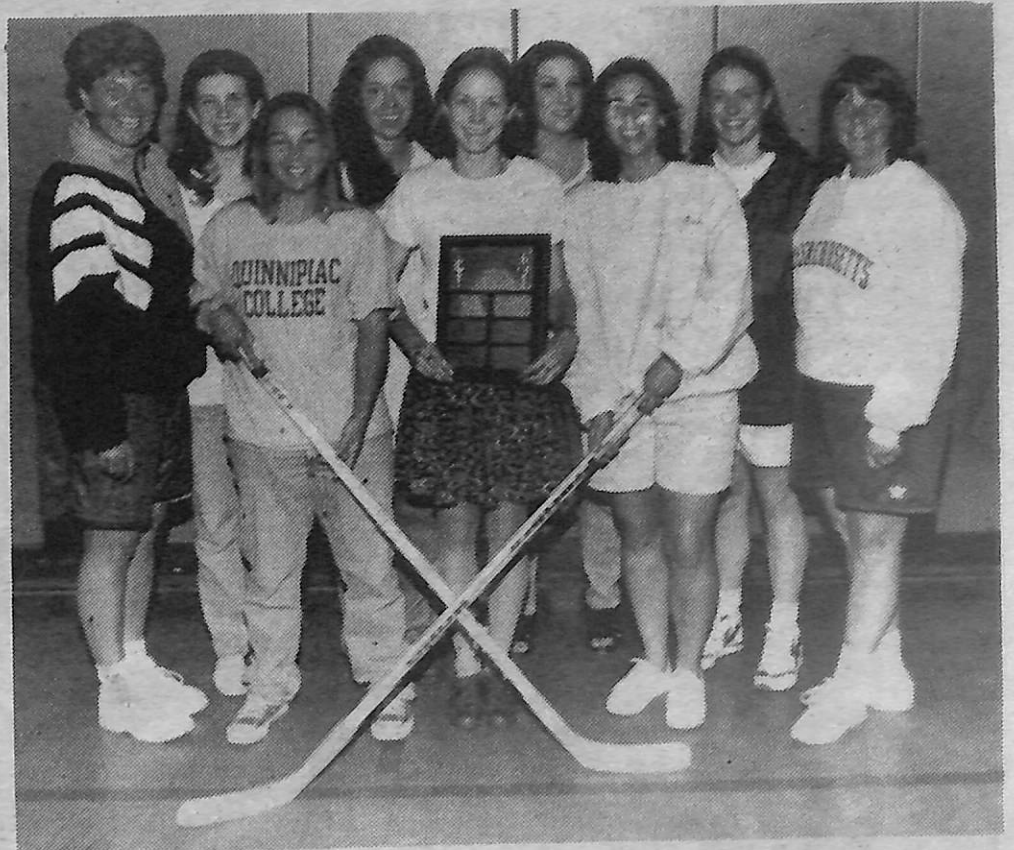
The Agawam suburban girls' 10-13 softball team will be holding a car wash on Saturday, July 6th, at Sacred Heart Church from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The cost is \$2 for cars and \$3 for vans. Proceeds from this event will be used to benefit the ASA program.

Come support Agawam softball by having your vehicle washed by the suburban girls' softball team.

— Check our classified ads —

Floor Hockey Noted At AHS



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL female athletes participated in a floor hockey program and awards were handed out following the completion of the season. Back row, from left - Coach Mary Murray, Sarah Latif, Sarah Shepard, Christy Roberts, Patti Olson, and Physical Education teacher Barbara Stevens. Front row - Becky Wing, Amy Bilodeau, and Annie Bianca. Advertiser News

photo by Jack DeLine.



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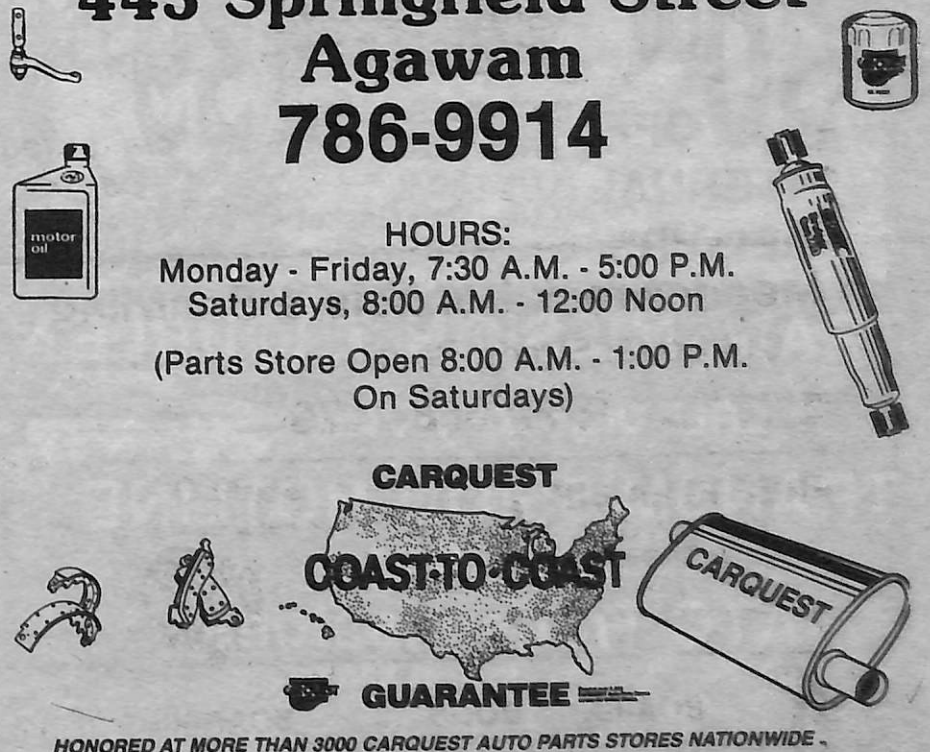
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Riverside Amusement Park Raises \$15,000 For Scholarship Fund

The Sixth Annual Edward J. Carroll, Sr. Golf Classic was held on June 17, 1996 at Oak Ridge Golf Club. The Classic raised enough funds for 15 \$1,000 scholarships for seasonal personnel.

Since 1990, Riverside Amusement Park has given over 50 scholarships to summer employees having a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Ed Carroll, Sr., founder of the park, made Riverside what it is today with the help of his seasonal employees. It is in his memory that Riverside established the Scholarship Fund. Bill Carroll, grandson of Ed Carroll, Sr. and General Counsel to Riverside, was the 1996 Golf Classic Chairman.

Other employee incentives include an attendance bonus program, enabling employees the potential to earn as much as \$4 over their regular rate; recognition awards for legendary service; and monthly employee appreciation parties.



IN TOP PHOTO, helping out at the recent Edward J. Carroll, Jr., Golf Tournament at Oak Ridge Golf Club included Kate Horner, Barb Welch, Jane Hajec, Nicole Marmet, and Karen Matusiewicz. PHOTO BELOW - Some of the participants included Wayne Macey, Jason Freeman, Police Chief Robert Campbell, and Paul (Mono) Strycharz of Oak Ridge Golf Club. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



EDWARD J. CARROLL, JR., owner and operator of Riverside Amusement Park (left), and Bill Carroll (right), congratulate plaque holders Greg Williams, Steve Smith, Bill Holbrook, and Todd Goodrich at the Sixth Annual Edward J. Carroll, Sr. Golf Tournament at Oak Ridge Golf Club. IN PHOTO BELOW, the golfers (led by Ed Carroll in front car - right) are ready for a big day on the links. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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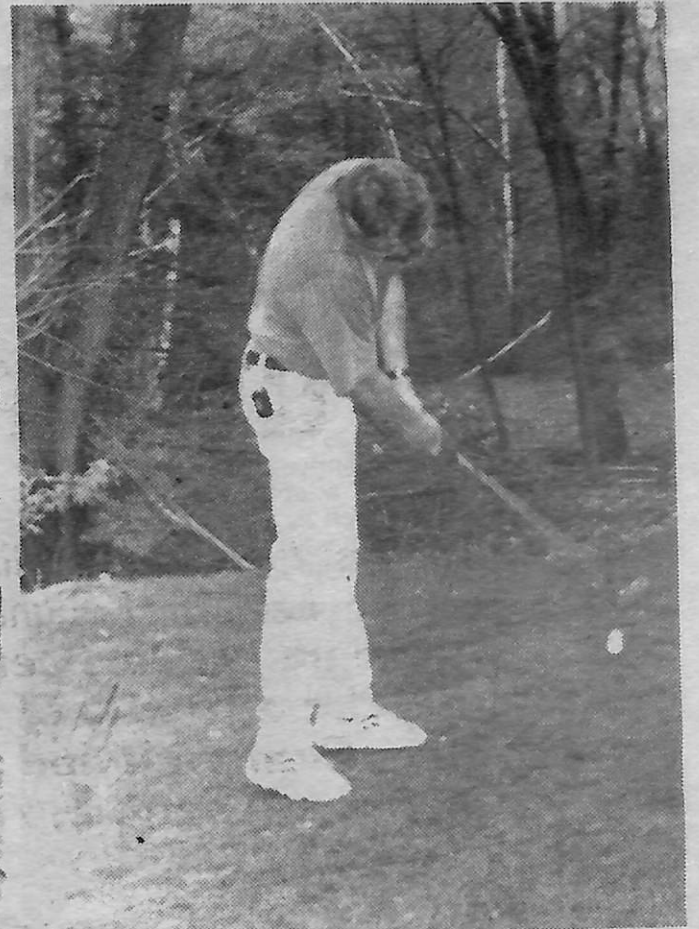
Tel. 786-5658

AHS Football Already Getting Ready



MEMBERS OF THE 1996 Agawam High football team held a car wash fundraiser in the Sacred Heart Church parking lot recently for the upcoming fall season. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

A Good Chipper



KEITH BAKER practices his chipping at Longhi's Golf Range in Southwick recently. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Jr. Golf Clinic Again Being Held At Oak Ridge CC

Oak Ridge Golf Club will once again hold its Annual Junior Golf Clinic during the month of July on each Monday and Thursday beginning on July 8th. There is no charge for this annual clinic.

On Monday, July 8th, registration and introduction to the sessions will be held. On Thursday, July 11th, grip, stance, and introduction to swing will be covered.

The final four classes will be held down the road at Longhi's Driving Range on Rte. 57 in Southwick. The Monday, July 15th clinic will cover "body coil"; Thursday, July 18th, "weight transfer"; Monday, July 22nd, "chipping & putting"; and Thursday, July 25th, "Contest Day."

The clinic will be held from 8:00 to 9:15 a.m. for 12-17 year-olds; 7-11 year-olds can enjoy the clinic from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.

Sponsors for the Junior Golf Clinic include *The Agawam Advertiser News*, Longhi's Driving Range, the Strycharz Family of Oak Ridge Golf Club, Fran Johnson's, Gary Campbell and Top-Filte, Larry Bellorato and Titleist, and the Joseph F. Amaral Junior Open.

For more information, call 789-7307.

Sunday Night Summer Soccer League

The Sunday Night Summer Soccer League (SNSL) is back for its second season beginning on July 7th at Agawam High School.

The SNSL is a six-on-six Men's/High School league. It will run for eight weeks, beginning July 7th and ending with playoffs on August 25th. The fee for the league is \$20 per person, which covers the cost of uniform shirts and referee fees.

Once again, the league will be directed by Jeff Rousseau with help from Agawam High School coaches, players, and alumni.

For more information or to sign up for a team, contact Jeff Rousseau, 789-6539; Dwight Northrup, 734-3926; or Jason Jean, 786-4368.

Strycharz Golf Classic Set For Oak Ridge

The 17th Annual "Tony Strycharz" Golf Classic has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 10th, at Oak Ridge Country Club in Feeding Hills. The starting time is 11:30 a.m.

You can have a cart, lunch, soda, and fruit on the course, as well as a delicious prime rib dinner. Plus, there will be a prize for everyone.

The cost is \$90 for both the golf and dinner, or \$30 for the dinner only.

For reservations and/or more information, call Barbara Griffin, 533-1588, or Don and Evie Moynihan, 533-4392.

Boys' Basketball Camp To Be Offered Again This Summer

Lou Conte and Mike Martin, the varsity girls' and boys' basketball coaches at Agawam High School this past year, will conduct a basketball camp for boys ages eight to 16 again this year at Grand Meadow Health and Racquet Club.

The camp, in its eighth year, will be held for two weeks—July 8th-12th and July 15th-19th. The camp stresses fundamentals and fun.

For further information, contact Conte at 786-7729, or Martin at 789-0494.

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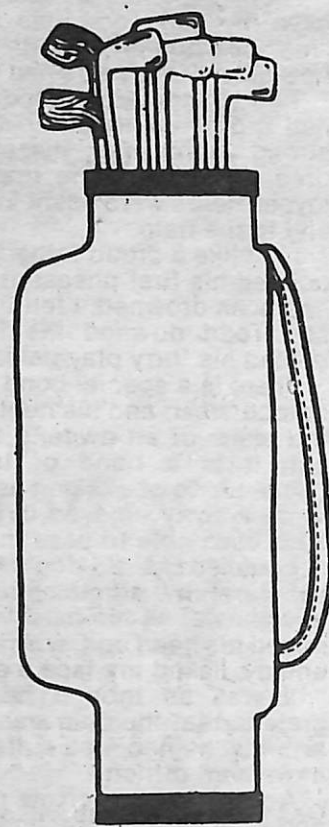
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Oak Ridge Golf Club

Junior Golf Program

The first two classes will be held at Oak Ridge Golf Club. The last four will be held at Longhi's Driving Range. This year's sponsors are: **Agawam Advertiser News, Longhi's Driving Range, the Strycharz family of Oak Ridge Golf Club, Fran Johnson's, Gary Campbell and Top-Flite, Larry Bellorado and Titleist, and the Joseph F. Amaral Junior Open.**



Summer 1996

Monday, July 8th: **Registration And Introduction**

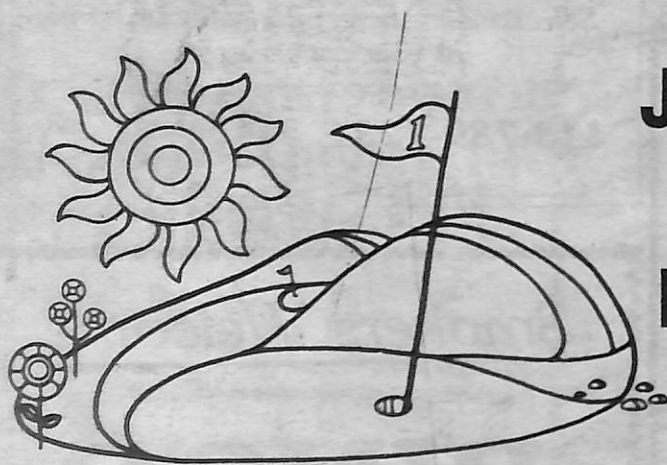
Thursday, July 11th: **Grip, Stance, And Introduction To Swing**

Thursday, July 18th: **Body Coil**

Monday, July 22nd: **Weight Transfer**

Thursday, July 25th: **Chipping And Putting**

Monday, July 29th: **Contest Day**



Juniors Ages 12-17

8:00—9:15 A.M.

Pre-Juniors Ages 7-11

9:15—10:30 A.M.

Name _____

Age _____

Street _____

Town _____

State _____

Telephone () _____

Zip _____

Parents' Consent _____

Instructors: PGA Golf Pros Jim Modzelesky And Steve Sullivan



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

When You Have To Choose A New Hunting Companion

It is an unfortunate occurrence that will repeat itself several times over during the life span of a hunter.

Our English Setter, Rusty, slowly climbed into the back seat of the 4x4 as he had done so many times before. The ravages of old age and slowed his body and dampened his spirit.

I couldn't help but think back to the time when I gave my son Todd this faithful companion as "his" bird dog on his fifth birthday. I reflected on how quickly the years had passed before my eyes.

Two youngsters — one human, one canine — had grown up together. One had grown into a strong young man; the other had grown into a tired old dog. During that time, however, many joyous hours were spent in romps in the back yard and in the field.

I felt like a proud father the time the young pup pointed his first pheasant and retrieved it after it had been drowned. I felt the same pride when my son Todd downed his first pheasant hunting behind his furry playmate.

There is a special bond that exists between an outdoorsman and his hunting dog. It goes beyond the realm of an owner's affection for the family pet. It is a bond of trust, loyalty, and the camaraderie of working as a team while engaging in an activity enjoyed by both. I was pleased to have been able to pass this on to my son.

I cradled the old dog's head in my arms as the vet carefully administered the lethal dose of anesthesia. As his muscles began to go limp, he raised his head and, with his last bit of conscious energy, licked my face a good-bye kiss.

It was as though he understood and was grateful that the pain was over. In addition to his arthritis, he had also suffered a stroke and found movement difficult.

A waterfall of sorrow rolled down my cheeks and onto the vet's examining table as my good friend and hunting companion lay lifeless. I released him from my embrace and sobbed like a child for what I had just done.

I had just committed my last act of love and kindness for this faithful old dog. There would not be any more pain and suffering, yet I felt an anguish and loss that goes beyond words.

Rusty was gone, but his spirit still dances in a field of goldenrod, unrestrained by age and pain. I was alone, surrounded by friends and human

companionship, but life was just not complete for a bird hunter without a dog.

JUSTIFYING THE DECISION

If every cloud had a silver lining, then the loss of a faithful companion would be softened by the anticipation and excitement of choosing the next occupant of the family kennel.

My dear wife Peggy — my life mate, my social director, mother of our children and Keeper of the Hounds — was reluctant at the thought of starting all over. I had allowed her to get spoiled! She had gotten used to a house devoid of white setter fur, hound drool, and "puppy papers."

There had always been an English Setter or two and a few long-eared, bugle-voiced Black and Tans and cold-nosed Bluetick Coonhounds around the household. For the very first time since we got married, there were no wagging tails to dust off the furniture and no canine intruder alarms.

For the very first time, I was out of dog power, and the Keeper of the Hounds wanted to retire from her long-held position. I had even thought about permanently disabling the pot scrubber cycle on the dishwasher, but she is finally softening her stance.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PUP

Once you have decided on which breed of dog is suited for your purpose, whether it is a Lab or Golden Retriever for duck hunting, a beagle for rabbits or hare, or a pointing dog or flushing spaniel for birds, the fun part begins.

Let's begin by looking at the different registry options available. There is A.K.C. and U.K.C. along with F.D.S.B. There are many fine dogs that are registered with the A.K.C. and I mean them no slight. For my money, however, I am not looking for a "show ring" dog.

The other two registries are more specialized in dogs that have proven themselves in field trials. The FIELD DOG STUD BOOK or F.D.S.B. sort of specializes in bird dogs, while the UNITED KENNEL CLUB or U.K.C. offers "Purple Ribbon" (or P.R.) designation to registered hound breeds.

The U.K.C. and F.D.S.B. "champion" designation in a pedigree designates field champions. These are the pup's ancestors that had to perform in the field. Therefore, the chance of hip dysplasia hiding in the genes is somewhat more remote.

When you have finally selected a breeder and examined the litter, take care in selecting the pup on more than just "cute" criteria. Look for a pup that is friendly to people but seems to be bolder than some of its littermates.

A timid puppy will often become an insecure "problem" dog. You want a pup that will respond to your personality, be obedient to your commands, yet hunt with a bold and unafraid abandon.

Ideally, the breeder is an outdoorsman and will be willing to demonstrate his dog's skills in the field or be able to validate the dog's performance as a hunting dog. Just because a dog is from field trial stock is no guarantee that the pup will make a good gun dog.

Don't forget that some field trial dogs are run on horseback! The dog is supposed to be hunting in the next two counties.

This is the wrong background, especially for those of us who are on the wrong side of the proverbial "Hill." Select a "New England" style shooting dog if you plan to hunt pheasant and partridge. If you plan to hunt quail or prairie chickens on the open expanses of the great Southwest, then find a good "field trial" dog, saddle up, and have a ball.

Waterfowl hunters also have their specialties, as do beaglers and coon hunters. Big-game hounds used on bear and wild boar also need special qualities.

If you are venturing into the decision of your first hunting dog, figure out what your needs are and consult with a professional trainer. Spend a few days if possible on a shooting preserve and check out how the dog and handler work together and seek his or her opinions if you are impressed. (Next week: Getting the pup "started.")

FISH REPORTS

This week's fish report is almost identical to last week's report. No outstanding catches have been reported as of this writing. The warm water species are in their early summer pattern. The unusual early spring weather has retarded early weed growth by several weeks, and fluctuating water temperatures have made locating concentrations of fish more difficult.

Congamond Lakes continue to give up some very respectable largemouths, according to Kurt at Saunders Marina. Bass are being taken in deeper water adjacent to points and bars. Some bass are also being taken from the inner edges of pad fields. The die-off of bluegills, as recently reported, was due to algae blooms coupled with spawning stress. There are, however, more than enough remaining bluegills to provide a substantial fishery for these species.

Connecticut River smallmouth continue to provide action, with some largemouth mixed in. The downstream side of bridge abutments are producing fish on small jib and twister tail combinations. Medium diving crankbaits are accounting for bass near the mouth of tributaries.

Valley streams are producing average early summer trout action. Angler reports of some nice holdovers coming out of the Farmington River and the Westfield River continue to come in.

SALT WATER

The Race is producing both bluefish and striped action. Other locations are producing some blackfish.

The mouth of the Connecticut River is producing some fluke action, and flounder are being taken in the usual locations. Jigs dressed with a trailing squid strip have accounted for a good number of the fluke. Sand worms and clam strips have been taking most of the flounder.

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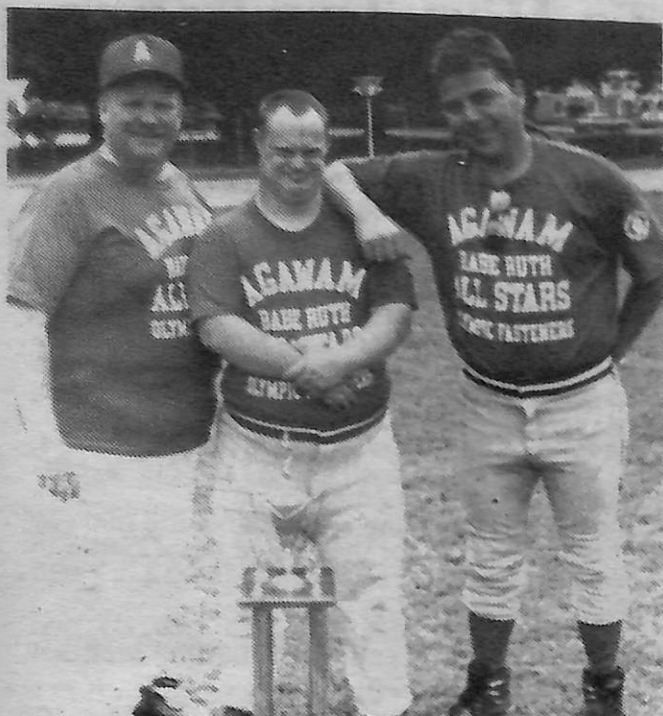
BINGO

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Agawam's Babe Ruth All-Stars Move On



MEMBERS OF AGAWAM'S BABE RUTH ALL-STARS are competing in a regional tournament and have advanced to the next round at presstime. **IN PHOTO LEFT**, Coaches Gary DeSimone and Howard Rogers are pictured with the team's bat boy, Paul Bradley, who was recently named "Bat Boy of the Year." **In photo right** pictured are team members, including, Coach Gary DeSimone, Jesse Kelleher, Ryan Tyler, Jack Pearson, Coach Steve Bonesteel, Nick Beaudette, Tony LeClair, Sean Gaffney, Adam Ellsworth, Brian Santinello, Ray Ostapies (from sponsor Olympic Fasteners), Coach Howard Rogers, Brian Foley, Kacy Progulske, Sean DeVall, Corey Federico, Paul Bradley, Aaron Gilbert, Joe Ginsberg, and Ben Lapins. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Turnverein Gymnasts Compete In Annual Turnfest

At the combination gymnastics and track and field competition known as the Turnfest held in Clinton, MA, the Springfield Turn-Verein team took second place overall, third place in the Mass Drill, and a second and third place in track and field special events.

Special thanks go to our Turnfest coaches Kelly Mullen, Melanie DeMastrie, and Amy DiAngelo. They prepared the team well and put in a long weekend, as did all the parents who attended.

Thanks also go to Kym Lynch, whose coaching of the boys is evident in the individual scores below:

Boys 10 and older (Lower level):

Travis Varelas, first on vault, floor, parallel bars and decathlon; second on high bar, pommel and rings; fourth place track events.

Phillip Prouty, first on rings, pommel horse, high bar and all-around; second on vault and floor; third in parallel bars; fifth place decathlon.

Girls 9 to 11 (Lower level):

Alicia Linder, third on uneven bars.

Brittany Taylor, first on floor, uneven bars, all-around and shot put; fifth place for septathlon and balance beam.

Girls 9 to 11 (Intermediate):

Nicole Baginski, fourth on uneven bars and septathlon; fifth on floor; sixth on balance beam and track events place.

Laura Cote, first on floor balance beam, all-around; second in track events; third on floor, uneven bars and rope climb; fifth on vault.

Jackie Motyl, second place septathlon and uneven bars; third on floor and all-around; fourth on vault and fifth on balance beam and track events.

Erika Prouty, first on floor, rope climb, long jump and track events; fifth place on vault; sixth on septathlon.

Rachel Schwartz, first on uneven bars; second on floor; third on septathlon; fifth all-around; sixth track and field place.

Girls 12 to 14 (Lower level):

Stephanie Harnois, first in shot put; third septathlon; fourth on balance beam; fifth on vault, all-around and track events place; sixth on uneven bars.

Girls 12 to 14 (Intermediate):

Maryann Connor, fourth on balance beam; fifth on uneven bars and septathlon; sixth all-around.

Girls 12 to 14 (Upper level):

Michelle Cote, first on long jump; second on balance beam; third on floor; fourth on vault and all-around; fifth on uneven bars and septathlon.

Amanda Peters, first place on uneven bars and all-around; second on vault, floor and septathlon; third on balance beam.

Girls 15 and older (Upper level):

Kelly Mullen, first on balance beam and long jump; second on uneven bars; third on floor and all-around; fourth in septathlon.

The First Annual Awards Banquet was held. Medals were presented to the class gymnasts and trophies to the team gymnasts.

DARE Golf Tourney Set For August 14th At Oak Ridge GC

Agawam D.A.R.E. Officer Donald Gallerani has announced that the Eighth Annual Agawam Police D.A.R.E. Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, August 14th, at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Feeding Hills, with a shotgun start at 12:00 noon.

The D.A.R.E. Program is an important and successful anti-drug and violence program conducted by the Agawam Police Department and the Agawam Public Schools. The program is geared toward school children at the elementary and middle school age. It intelligently teaches them to say "NO" to drugs and violence. The D.A.R.E. Program in Agawam is funded solely by private donations and this golf tournament.

The price per golfer is \$90, which includes cart, green fees, lunch and refreshments on the course, longest drive and closest to the pin contest, prizes, and prime rib dinner after golf. If you will not be able to golf, but would like to attend dinner, the cost is \$35.

The committee is also looking for businesses to sponsor holes. Sponsorship of a hole is \$100 and a sign noting you as a sponsor will be provided and placed in a prominent spot on the golf course.

"D.A.R.E. is a powerful tool in the war against drugs and violence here in Agawam," stated Officer Gallerani. "We hope you will help us keep this program going because it is important to our children's future."

Entry deadline is August 2nd. The course can accommodate a limited number of foursomes and it will fill up very quickly, so register today.

For more information, call Officer Gallerani at 786-4768.

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Fran Principi Wins First Modified Feature At Riverside Speedway

On Saturday, June 29th, Riverside Park Speedway's final "Fan Month" program had it all: a trackside pit party with rides in the race cars; drama with **Fran Principi** winning his first Modified feature in a near photo finish; controversy in the Late Models with a win by **John Severns**; **Barry Gray** winning his second feature; and Strictly Stock determination demonstrated by **Ed Charette**.

The Bumper-To-Bumper sponsored event drew a crowd of 4,959 fans who enjoyed the excitement of one of the best Modified races of the seasons. Dan Grasso started up front to lead the first four laps, as Fran Principi moved into the lead from fourth on lap five.

At one point, Principi had the Newtown Exxon Cavalier out in front by almost a straightaway. Still, all eyes were on the teams that followed.

Ted Riggott came from 10th and was challenging Brian Schofield and Jim Houghton. Houghton then drifted high as Schofield came in contact. On the restart, it was now the teams of Riggott, Reggie Ruggiero, Dan Avery, and Dave Berube that created the pressure. And just as Ted Riggott finally got the lead, it was Ed Spiers who brought out the next caution.

Principi was again the leader, and five laps later Riggott had inched into the lead. A third caution gave it back to Principi, and he drove the race of his career.

On the restart, things got checked up for a faulty start. It was first or second, a thought that crossed Principi, but it never showed in the closing laps. The final 10 laps showed Principi wheel-to-wheel with Riggott every lap.

And if that wasn't enough pressure, add in Reggie Ruggiero, Dan Avery, and Dave Berube. With less than a quarter of a lap to go, Principi showed more determination than ever, and so did Ted Riggott.

At the checker it was a near photo finish, as Fran Principi pulled ahead of Riggott during the last 20 feet to earn his first career NASCAR Modified win. Second was Ted Riggott (International Auto Body), third was Reggie Ruggiero (Ed Oles), fourth was Dan Avery (Porter Chester), and fifth was Dave Berube (Leether Automotive).

Sixth through 10th were Tony Papale (Teto Racing), Richie Gallup (Lauro Law Offices), Dave Gallo (Mickey Finns), Tom Jensen (A&M Auto), and Rob Summers (Seals It).

"Victory lane is a lot harder than I ever thought. The race was easier than this interview. We are a low-buck family team. My dad and the crew deserve this. As for Ted Riggott, he is a clean driver that you can race with. Tell me this isn't real," said the first-time winner, Fran Principi.

In the Late Models Bumper-To-Bumper feature, more controversy ensued. Rob Valerio was the leader until the final two laps. Off of turn four, contact was made as Valerio and second-place runner John Severns touched.

Severns held on and won the event, and the grandstand went wild. This win marked Severns' first victory, and following the race he said, "This isn't how I wanted it. I am sorry if the fans don't understand. Rob Valerio is a good racer and we touched. I credit the win to my mom and dad."

Second went Ted Chalmers, followed by early leader Brian Choquette, Chuck Docherty, and Rob Valerio. Rounding out the top 10 were E.J. Legacy, Bob Ermark, Ernie Tarca, Tom Dileo, and Joe Rzeszutek.

"Twice" was the charm for Barry Gray, who chalked up win number two in the Pro Stocks. Jim Mavlounganes stole the early laps of the feature with a solid run up front; however, on lap 26, it was Gray in the lead after laps of wheel-to-wheel racing.

Still, the story was Eddy Carroll, the point leader, who came from last after being the alternate to move in to finish second over Rich Vasseur, Jim Mavlounganes, and Jeff Horn.

Coming in sixth through 10th in this division were Bill Bolton, Jim Bainfield, Ed Carroll, Tom Fearn, Fran Colson.

Ed Charette secured his second Strictly Stock feature, and this victory marked his first win for Carlo Custom Auto (his second team). Scott Neleber (who led for most of the feature) ultimately finished second, and Scott Ciak came ahead of Pat Townsend and James Sommer.

Rounding out the top 10 for the Strictly Stocks were Dennis Charette, Dennis Sporbett, Jon Yourga, Mike Salmond, and Pat Kretchman.

This Saturday and Sunday, July 6th and 7th, Riverside Park Speedway will host two racing programs to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday.

For further information, call the speedway at 786-9300.

Riverside Speedway's Unofficial Standings (As Of June 23, 1996)

MODIFIEDS

Dave Berube
Tom Jensen
Eddy Spiers
Richard Savary
Ted Riggott
Tony Papale
Richie Gallup
Jim Houghton
Reggie Ruggiero
Fran Principi
Renee Dupuis
Brian Schofield
Chris Kopec
Rob Summers
Marty Leary
Dave Gallo
Dan Grasso
Eric LeClair
Roy Seidell
Dan Avery

420
408
394
378
372
372
338
330
326
314
306
306
298
292
256
240
214
202
168
166

PRO STOCKS

Eddy Carroll
John Lobo
Jeff Connors
Tom Fearn
Tom Carey
Ed Carroll
Scott Bouley
Bill Lauridsen
Bennett Fuller
Doug D'Alessandro
Barry Gray
Jeff Horn
Jim Banfield
Rich Vasseur
Fran Colson
Les Hinckley
Jeff Baral
Jay Miller
Mike Duquette
Craig St. Germain

516
466
456
448
424
418
386
350
344
326
324
312
302
292
274
262
246
226
214
196

LATE MODELS

Todd Owen
Glenn Griswold
Chris Wenzel
Gee Perry
Ted Chalmers
Wayne Coury
Rob Valerio
Bobby Ermark
Skip Breunig
Chuck Docherty
Joe Czarnecki
Joe Rzeszutek
Brian Locke
Roy Houle
Tom Dileo

450
444
432
424
418
402
392
390
358
346
342
318
312
302
294

STRICTLY STOCKS

Patrick Townsend
Mike Salmond
Dennis Charette
James Sommer
Scott Neleber
Keith Miller
Kris Valerio
Jon Waterhouse
Dennis Brilla
Tony Kielty
Rick Leavitt
Glen Reilly
Todd Malvezzi
Ed Charette
Keith Carzello

572
502
486
460
434
426
400
396
334
334
334
312
304
296
290

NAPA Point Standings (After June 1, 1996)

MODIFIEDS

Ted Riggott
Dave Berube
Tom Jensen
Brian Schofield
Jim Houghton

90
84
80
74
70

PRO STOCKS

Ed Carroll
Eddy Carroll
Jeff Connors
John Lobo
Scott Bouley

90
86
84
78
74

LATE MODELS

Brian Locke
Rob Valerio
Roy Houle
Ted Chalmers
Glenn Griswold

86
84
78
76
74

Riverside Speedway To Host Two Racing Events This Weekend

If you're tired of traditional, plain old fireworks, then get ready because auto racing and a million-dollar display of fireworks is just the answer. It's "Double NASCAR Thunder" — two big America's birthday celebrations at Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam, MA!

On Saturday, July 6th, it's the Budweiser/ACME/Denny's Restaurant "America's Birthday 100" for the NASCAR tour-type Modifieds. This is the second 100-lap event of the 1996 season, with noted drivers like Reggie Ruggiero, Chris Kopec, Dan Avery, Steve Park, Dave Berube, and more.

In addition to this, we will have the Pro Stocks, Late Models, and Strictly Stocks, plus a one-million-dollar fireworks display.

This Saturday evening event marks the midway point of the season for the heated point battle in all divisions. The pit area opens at 10:00 a.m., with the action set to start at 6:00 p.m.

Adult admission is \$15.99, and kids (11 and under) are \$2.99. It is estimated that the program will be over by 10:45 p.m.

The second big holiday event is a family tradition — "Fireworks Sunday" on Sunday, July 7th.

This event is run in part, rain or shine. It features 25 death-defying holiday events: a full-size Enduro race, a four-cylinder Enduro, wild and crazy Figure 8 races, TQ Midgets, the Legend cars, Pro 4 Modifieds, Strictly Stocks, Super Stocks, Mini-Stocks, 4x4 car crushing, police racing for the Jimmy Fund, a Demolition Derby, and the one-million-dollar fireworks display.

It's all run rain or shine on Sunday, July 7th, with the pits opening at 10:00 a.m. Race day entry is accepted on race day, and "real" race divisions qualify in the afternoon. The South Gate opens at 4:00 p.m., and the action is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. Like the Saturday, July 6th program, this special event will most likely finish at around 10:45 p.m.

It's a great family value for only \$12.99 for adults, and \$2.99 for kids 11 years of age and under. What's more, your speedway admission include a walk through New England's largest amusement park with free shows, great games, and great food.

So don't miss these two big America's birthday celebrations at Riverside Park Speedway this coming weekend!

Coming up on July 14th, Riverside will be featuring the only appearance of the NEMA Midgets, and then on Wednesday, July 17th, the speedway will host the only midweek stop on the featherlight Modified tour (rain date Thursday, July 18th).

For further information, call (413) 786-9300, extension 3264.

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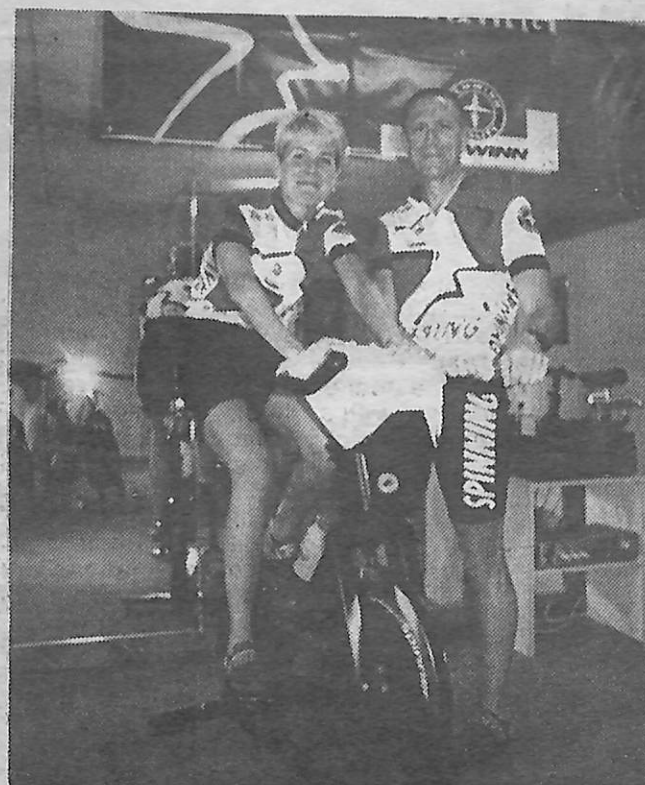
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DEBBIE CHEETHAM, a 1981 Agawam High graduate who now competes professionally as a triathlete, is co-owner of Fitness Unlimited in Springfield. The facility offers "The Spinner," which is the latest fitness craze. Debbie is pictured demonstrating the Spinner with co-owner Steven Black (in both photos), who is well-known in the area as a sports therapist.

Agawam High Grad Debbie Cheetham Offering Latest Fitness Craze

Debbie Cheetham, a 1981 Agawam High School graduate, is involved with the latest fitness craze at Fitness Unlimited at 2133 Boston Road, Springfield - Spinning.

Cheetham and well-known area trainer and sports therapist Steve Black are co-owners of Fitness Unlimited and their facility is the first in Western Mass. to offer Spinning.

Cheetham herself is a personal trainer who also competes professionally as a triathlete. Spinning is a workout that consists of a group of people in a class using specially designed stationary bikes. At times they are ferociously pedaling, and at other times they are pedaling slower.

But the entire time they are listening to their instructor as he/she speaks. The class closes their eyes for a moment and becomes transported to a road filled with hills and valleys, noted Cheetham.

All along, the music is pumping and the sweat is pouring (while the class continues to alternate-

ly stand up and sit down on their seats, imitating off-road mountain bike conditions like jumps, sprints, and climbs).

Each participant moves at his/her own pace through the 45 minute cardiovascular workout. But the class always reaches the end of the journey together, says Cheetham.

The "Johnny G. Spinner" by Schwinn was created by ultra-endurance cyclist Johnny G and engineered in the sleek geometry of a road racing bike by Schwinn. It features a specially weighted front wheel which creates momentum to keep the pedals spinning, providing smooth operation at any r.p.m.

The Spinner does not have a sophisticated computer screen, bells, or whistles, adds Cheetham, but it simply allows the rider a challenge with minimum influence from the outside. The Spinner also comes equipped with a fixed gear, as well as a fully-adjustable seat and

handlebar. "This delivers one of the most comfortable fits in a stationary bike," Cheetham said.

She added, "Spinning allows people of all ages and fitness levels to take a stationary bike and transform it into a powerful workout performed in a class environment. With Spinning, people can experience road cycling without all the associated dangers. Spinning is fun and easy to learn."

Classes in Spinning have been ongoing at Fitness Unlimited since June 17th. Besides Cheetham and Black, certified instructors at the facility include Kelly Clemente, Billie Dobosz, Doug Dollar, Jeff Harper, Mike Mason, and Lynn Ostrowski.

Call Fitness Unlimited today at 596-6868 to reserve your Spinner. "We'll take you on a journey that will leave you energized and asking for more," said Cheetham.



Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by
Jim Modzelesky,
PGA
Oak Ridge Golf Club,
Feeding Hills, MA

Try A Fairway Wood From The Greenside Rough

If you're having trouble with those little pitch shots from deep rough around the green, here's a shot you might want to try, although it is a shot you have to practice a lot before you try it on the course.

Take a lofted fairway wood (the higher lofted, the better) and play what I call a "pop shot." Set the ball back in your stance, with your hands set ahead of the ball. This will help ensure that you hit down sharply on the ball at impact.

Since these clubs have long shafts, you'll want to grip down on the club, but don't overdo it. A good rule of thumb is to work your way down the grip until you reach a point that feels comfortable.

To hit this shot, pick up the club away from the ball quickly but without a lot of wrist cock. This is a shot you want to hit with dead hands.

Strike down sharply on the ball, allowing it to pop into the air. There's not much follow-through, and you have to allow for the ball to run once it reaches the green, since it won't have a lot of spin.

The beauty of this shot is that the club won't be as likely to get caught up in the thick grass as a wedge might. Also, it culminates the tendency to try to scoop the ball into the air. This is a particularly common problem among higher handicappers.

Best local news...

Blue Jays Win Championship In SHAA 8-10 League

The Sacred Heart Athletic Association's 8-10 Pitching Machine League held its championship game on June 25, 1996.

The Blue Jays defeated the Red Sox, 13-2. The Blue Jays had a total of 16 hits, and the Red Sox had seven.

The Blue Jays' roster is comprised of Chris Berube, Daniel Cirillo, Gregory Gay, Chris Graveline, Joe Grady, Trevor Gregor, Shannon Harlow, Peter Longhi, Zachary Matys, Joe McDyer, Alan Mesick, Joe Reutt, and Christian Sear.

The Head Coach for the Blue Jays is Steve Berube, and the Assistant Coaches are John Cirillo and Norm Gilbert.

At this time, the members of the Sacred Heart Athletic Association would like to thank *The Agawam Advertiser-News* for the coverage that it has given to the S.H.A.A. teams.

S.H.A.A. 1996 10-12 Boys' Standings (Final Standings)

	W	L
Cornerstone Christian Book Store Phillies	12	2
Bonavita, Gordon, Danie And Walsh Falcons	11	3
E.B.'s Red Sox	7	7
Westfield Savings Bank Rockies	7	7
Baystate Gas Orioles	5	9
Agawam Federal Credit Union Blue Jays	5	9
Valenti's Athletics	2	12

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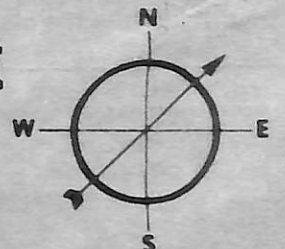
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WANTED: School bus drivers wanted in Agawam and West Springfield. Must have 3 years' driving experience with C.D.L. Class B, with A & P endorsements. Will train with learner's permit. Driving record and 21 years of age required. Apply in person. 99 Arnold Ave., Springfield. Call 796-9730 for information.

BABYSITTER WANTED: Babysitter needed for my newborn daughter beginning in August. The hours are 4:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, preferably in my home. If interested, please call 786-1234.

WANTED TO BUY: Collector seeking old or collectible items. Especially wanted: dolls (antique to modern), Halloween, Christmas, Easter decorations, Fiesta, cookie jars, salt & peppers, cast-iron, pottery, early plastic, advertising, fountain pens, postcards, toys, silver. Call Chris, (413) 786-1880, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

WANTED: Housekeeper/Companion either days or to live-in with elderly woman in Suffield. Driving, cooking, light housekeeping. References required. Please call (860) 651-3354.

PETS

PUPPY KINDERGARTEN: A 6-week program to be held at Dave's Soda and Pet City in Agawam. Beginning July 17th at 6:30 p.m. and will run every Wednesday evening. This class is very good for first-time puppy owners. Basic pet education and obedience skills will be taught along with promoting interaction with other dogs and people. Space is limited. Call Vickie at (413) 789-2259 to sign up.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Two single family homes for rent in the Feeding Hills area. One 2-bedroom with garage; one 3-bedroom with garage. No pets. Call 786-1545.

TAG SALE

TAG SALE: 556 Franklin St. Ext., Agawam (off Silver St.). July 6th, 8-4, & July 7th, 8-2. Rain or shine. Ask to see one-year-old kitchen set. Good price.

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